



## May Day at the end of month?

The Government is thinking of ending the May Day Bank holiday after this year and adding the day to the spring Bank holiday to make a four-day break at the end of May. Mr Michael Alison, Minister of State for Employment, reported complaints about the number of holiday breaks in the spring.

## Walesa 'expects release soon'

Mr Lech Walesa is still enthusiastic and believes he will be freed "for good" by March 7 to attend the baptism of his baby daughter, Maria Victoria. Father Henryk Janowski, chaplain to Solidarity, said after visiting the union leader:

Priests accused, page 7

## Prior to speak on De Lorean

Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, may make Commons statement Friday on the future of the De Lorean Motor Company. Mr John de Lorean and his fellow board members will meet Mr Prior tomorrow.

## Former agent in drugs ring

Howard Marks, a former agent for MI6, pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court to his part in an international drug smuggling group. Marks, aged 36, of west London, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment. A tangled world, page 3

## Friedman turns on Thatcher

Professor Milton Friedman, the Chicago economist and leading proponent of the monetarist policies adopted on both sides of the Atlantic, has roundly criticised the British Government and said that the performance under Mrs Thatcher was "terrible". Page 13

## Thorn's jab

The EEC needed drastic economic measures, Mr Gordon Thorn, the President of the European Commission, told the European Parliament. Condemning internal dissensions, he said the Community was burching from wine war to turkey fight. A single market was threatened from all sides. Page 8

## Holiday reprieve

British Caledonian is to lease two of Laker Airways' 380-seat DC10s for £1m. The move has saved smaller package holiday companies from a scramble for aircraft seats. Page 3

## Aggett 'beaten'

Dr Neil Aggett, the white trade union leader who died in South Africa's police custody, was strangled, ill-treated and beaten, Mrs Helen Suzman claimed in Parliament in Cape Town. Page 7

## Rules revision

The rules of golf, which are so complicated that even some of the game's most knowledgeable experts are sometimes caught out, are to be rewritten in a form that the average golfer will understand. Page 18

## TROUBLED ALLIES

In the second of a series of articles by former world leaders, Sir Edward Heath, West German Chancellor from 1969 to 1974, argues that Nato must not abandon the fundamental goals it set itself in 1957—military equilibrium, political democracy and balanced disarmament.

## World Cup form guide

A detailed guide to the form during the past year of the 24 national football teams who have qualified for the World Cup Final, which starts in Spain in June, appears in *The Times* tomorrow.

Leader page 11

**Letters:** On land tenancies from Sir Charles Mott-Radcliffe and Mr A. Harrison; National Insurance surcharge from Sir Terence Becker; Belfast coalfield, from Mr J. Cormley.

**Leading articles:** Railways; United States arms for Arabs; Features, pages 8, 10

**Obituary:** The Arts Council protest too much; Henry Fairlie comments on the state of American education; Manchester, the first in a *Times* series on the decline of Britain's inner cities; Giltbury, page 12.

**Editor:** Walter Oppenheimer; Major Vivien de Valera, McBoone Shirey; Ghanda, GM Iceland; A four-page Special Report to mark the official visit of the President to Britain

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## BR postpones accepting report: strikes to go on

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

British Rail refused last night to accept the time being, the committee of inquiry's report into the six-week-old railways dispute despite the report's being approved by the three unions in the industry. There was no early indication that Aslef had been taking since the start of the dispute.

His view was not universally shared, however, and in general British Rail, the other main rail unions believe that Aslef's acceptance of the report committed it to introducing the controversial flexible rostering which has been at the heart of the dispute that has so far cost the railways more than £60m.

Aslef refused to give evidence to the committee of inquiry, saying that it could not agree with flexible rostering being included in the agreement. British Rail has suggested to Acas a form of words that it hopes to get Aslef to agree to, confirming the union to the introduction of flexible rostering.

Mr Bucknold last night that Aslef's acceptance of the report committed it to flexible rostering, saying: "We will not be a party to the elimination of the guaranteed eight-hour day. We shall go into negotiations and we shall see what they bring."

It was that remark that persuaded the board against immediate acceptance of the report.

The inquiry recommended that as the 3 per cent was paid the introduction of flexible rosters of seven and nine hours should be put into the industry's negotiating machinery, and laid down that it should be referred up to the railway staffs' national tribunal if there was no agreement.

Lord McCarthy is also chairman of the national tribunal which will make final judgment on the introduction of new rosters. Aslef believes the new rosters will lead to the loss of 4,000 front-line jobs.

The National Union of Railmen and the Transport Salaried Staffs Association have already agreed to flexible rostering and have been paid the 3 per cent.

Mr Tom Jenkins, general secretary of the TSSA, said: "The strikes should be called off and the people concerned should get back to normal working as quickly as possible." McCarthy report, page 2

Leading article page 11

## Soviet ship sinks in rig disaster area

By Our Foreign Staff

A Soviet cargo ship sank yesterday in an Atlantic storm near the area where the big oil rig, Ocean Ranger, went down on Monday. Rescue officials said they feared that altogether more than 100 men had perished in the mountainous seas.

The nearest fixed-wing Buffalo search aircraft was five hours away on Monday. The rescue team, which was yesterday morning still 10 miles from the site, eventually located the site the rig had disappeared.

It took more time to locate two of the rig's lifeboats and it was even longer before a third was discovered. By then more than 12 hours had elapsed. However, the storm was savage even by the standards of the North Atlantic.

For years Newfoundland's leading politicians, regardless of party, have demanded a full enquiry into the fate of St John's, which was yesterday morning the last of three of its 1,000-tonne fleet to be lost.

More than half of the victims came from the island of Newfoundland and clergymen had to struggle through narrow, icy roads to reach villages, hamlets and outlying houses in order to comfort relatives.

Apart from Canadians, the dead included 13 Americans, and one English. At the time the Atlantic swell was still 30 knots.

The wind more than 20 knots. And in the aftermath, there were more questions than answers. Is it true that last Saturday week the crew of the Ocean Ranger scrambled for lifeboats when the rig listed badly? Were they familiar with emergency procedures? And did most of the 80 or so men try to cram into one boat equipped for 50 to 58 people?

Crewmen from the Ocean Ranger, who were ashore on leave or off shift when the ship had been making allegations of "jackdawish" safety measures on the rig.

Mr Robert St Aubin, an ice-watcher, was quoted in the *Ottawa Citizen* as saying that a safety exercise last Thursday was muddled with errors and confusion. When the alarm sounded, there was chaos.

"All the people at the high station went to the lower one. We have 62 people at my lifeboat and it only holds 32."

Hazards for crews and MPs query seafarers, page 6



Visitors framing a self-portrait of Meredith Frampton at a private show yesterday of the artist's retrospective exhibition at the Tate Gallery, London. The exhibition opens to the public today.

## Prior wins approval for Ulster assembly

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, yesterday won the approval of his Cabinet colleagues to go ahead at full speed with his plans for devolved government in the province, including the setting up of a 78-member assembly.

After seeing his proposals, the Cabinet's overseas and defence committee, meeting under the chairmanship of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, gave Mr Prior clearance to attempt to complete his talks with political parties in Ulster and to bring forward a draft White Paper and a draft Bill within the next few weeks.

Mr Prior would like to have legislation setting up the assembly, in which powers would gradually be granted under a system which has become known as "rolling devolution," on the statute book before the summer recess. But that, he told colleagues, would depend on him gaining some degree of acceptance for his plans from Northern Ireland politicians.

About 65,000 government white-collar employees, one in eight, will receive no pay rise at all this year. Young people fare worst as most staff under 21, employed on pay scales related to age, stand to get the same.

The Treasury said it had made the controversial shift in pay policy because the Civil Service had no difficulty in recruiting the staff it needed in most grades, at present rates of pay. The biggest increases, of 2.5 per cent on April 1 and further 3 per cent during the year, are being offered to the most senior and experienced staff in each grade.

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In a speech to the Conservative Party Group at the Commons last night, Mr Prior remarked: "It may be that at the end of the day I conclude that a new initiative just could not work: the differences between the parties remain so great that it would be pointless to try". But if that happened it would be a great tragedy for the people of Northern Ireland, he added.

The emphasis will be placed on the Civil Service finds it most difficult to retain in competition with the private sector, and the Government had for some time warned the union that it intended to reshape the Civil Service salary structure to be more competitive with the private sector.

However, the unions were last night outraged that the

## 'Ludicrous' nil pay increase angers civil servants' union

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The Government yesterday unveiled plans to introduce "market forces" into public service pay. Civil servants were offered a pay rise ranging from nil to 5.5 per cent, depending upon whether there were any staff recruitment problems in their grade.

Civil service union leaders immediately denounced the system for deciding Civil Service pay at a time when an independent inquiry appointed by the Government itself is considering the whole issue. They were widespread indignation at what the Government is trying to do. We will be seeking arbitration as soon as possible.

There was no threat of a repeat of the 21-week dispute that paralysed key sections of the Civil Service last year and led to the setting up of the current inquiry under Sir John Megaw, a former appeal court judge. His report is expected in the summer.

In detail, yesterday's Treasury package offers gives 65,000 employees no pay rises; 1 per cent to 70,000; 1.5 per cent to further 95,000, and the largest rise of 5.5 per cent to 240,000—almost half the service. There would be no increase for most adult new recruits in their first year of service, and no change in the lowest step of incremental scales at any level.

Another controversial aspect is the offer to enter into negotiations with private sector companies to reshape the Civil Service salary structure to be more competitive with such market forces.

The teachers are seeking an increase of 11.2 per cent from April 1 to keep the purchasing power of their salaries in line with inflation. The average annual salary of a teacher is at present £7,800; so a 3.4 per cent increase would mean about £5 extra a week for the "average" teacher.

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A 12 per cent increase would add about £540m to the total annual salary bill of £4,500m for teachers in England and Wales. A 3.4 per cent increase in the Civil Service salary structure to be more competitive with such market forces.

Compared with her

and compared with the QZB; No. 464 will be a riddle. She will be under 700 ft long, compared with the QZB's 983 ft. She will carry a crew of 500, half that of the Queen, and 300 fewer passengers.

And she will be barely half the size of Cunard's old pre-war Queens, which were not only the largest passenger ships ever built, but which were also ordered at a time of deep depression.

Mr Stanley Orme, Shadow Industry Secretary, last night tabled a motion to the Prime Minister about P&O's decision (the Press Association reports).

And Dr John Cunningham, Labour's frontbench spokesman on shipping, said: "It is appalling that this major and significant order from one of the largest British shipping companies should have gone to a foreign shipbuilder."

The executive of the engineering union also sent telegrams to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Mr James Prior, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and the chairman of P&O deplored the decision.

The executive asked Mrs Thatcher and Mr Prior to try to persuade P&O to use a British yard, end-to-end, to give preference to Harland and Wolff. Up to 1,000 jobs are to be saved at the state-owned yard in Ulster because of falling orders.

Director's share, page 13

## Jetsave chief disowns \$2m executive jet

By Philip Robinson

Associated Communications Corporation disclosed yesterday that it is investigating the circumstances of a \$1m (£1.02m) order for an eight-seater Cessna jet for the group's Jetsave subsidiary.

The order, on which a \$600,000 deposit has already been paid, was placed last summer when Lord Grade, chairman of ACC and Mr Jack Gill was deputy chairman of the tour operator, which is 85 per cent owned by ACC.

But Mr Reginald Pyfrom, Jetsave managing director who owns the remaining 15 per cent stake, said last night: "This jet was ordered without my approval, without my board's approval and against my advice and wishes."

At present the 2nd Airborne Division is based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where it forms an integral part of the USAF's 82nd Airborne Division in the heart of the Middle East, from the middle of March.

Senior American sources told *The Times* today that the 600 paratroopers will form the core of the United States proposed contribution of about 800 men to the 2,500-strong force.

The American troops will be stationed at a new £40m base in the USAF's 82nd Airborne Division, which is due to be completed in 1984.

Associated Communications

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Mr Gill suddenly departed as managing

director of ACC and High Court action is still pending to stop him from doing so.

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## Findings of the McCarthy inquiry

## Use negotiating machinery, rail parties are told

The following are extracts from the conclusions of the committee of inquiry report and recommendations on the dispute between the British Railways Board and the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen:

## Constraints and problems

When we agreed to undertake this inquiry we were well aware of a number of constraints and problems which we would need to overcome. In the first place we were working against the background of continuing industrial action and the loss of railway services and revenue. At the very least, this has imposed on us the need to find a quick and effective basis for a return to normal working.

It has been our experience that tight time constraints are not the best aids to arriving at lasting solutions to complex industrial disputes. Secondly and just as importantly, we were already involved in the operation of the railway's established machinery for settling issues in dispute between all the parties. Our chairman is also the chairman of the Railway Staff National Tribunal. We have all been members of past tribunals which have made awards which were likely to be quoted in this inquiry.

Finally, it was partly for this reason that we were asked by the chairman of Acas to undertake the lengthy—it must have been assumed—that task of something about the issues in dispute. But our past involvement has made us very much aware of the continued acceptability of the established machinery. We therefore, had to be careful to do nothing to undermine its future credibility in the eyes of all its signatories.

Yet things worked out our thinking considerably better than the most severe. When we agreed to serve we were given reason to believe that all the parties to the machinery would appear before us. This did not turn out to be the case and although we tried to seek a broad basis for the participation of the Aslef, the parties proved possible to arrive at a mutually acceptable way of securing this objective. Nevertheless, and after careful consideration, we were convinced that it was in the interests of all that we should not abandon our allotted task.

## Origins of the present dispute

Given these constraints, we feel able to comment upon the origins of the dispute, as arose out of the actions of the Board after the publication of RSNT decision 75. This decision was made under Paragraph 65(c) of the machinery and was not binding on any of the parties. The Board were, therefore, free to take the view that the recommended pay increase of a further 3 per cent from August 1981 was not acceptable to them unless there was more progress on "productivity initiatives". But the unions accepted RSNT 75 as it stood and did not find the Board's view acceptable. Both the NUR and the Aslef gave notice of strike action to induce the Board to honour the terms of decision 75 in full.

As a result the parties decided to obtain the assistance of Acas and after discussion two "understandings" were agreed. The first dealt with six areas where the Board wished to see further progress to improve productivity. This dispute most directly concerns:

(1) What was involved in subparagraph 2(c) which reads: "Variable rostering hours within limits to be negotiated. Negotiations shall take place to establish variations to the rostering agreements with a view to introducing some flexibility around the eight hour day, but without producing unreasonable variation in the length of each working day of week. These discussions shall be concluded by October 31, 1981".

(2) It also concerns the "Understanding on Pay", the relevant part of which read as follows: "An increase of 3 per cent on the rates prevailing on April 19, 1981 shall be paid to the same grades from August 3, 1981, the actual payment being made in the first pay period in January 1982."

2. The introduction of the shorter working week provided for in Paragraph 9 of the 1980 Pay Agreement shall be deferred until January 4, 1982.

3. The constituent parties of the RSNC accept the comments set out in Paragraph 19 of the RSNC Decision 75 regarding the continuation of negotiations on productivity issues and commit themselves to continue the progress that has already been

made in the areas covered by Clauses 1(i), (ii) and (iii) of the 1980 Pay Agreement".

(3) The relevant terms of the 1980 Pay Agreement dealing with the shorter working week are as follows:

"(9) The Board accepts a commitment to reduce the standard working week of staff covered by the RSNC from the present levels of 40 hours for conciliation staff and 38 hours for skilled staff by the equivalent of one hour from November 1, 1981, providing this is done within the context of discussion of measures which will minimize the cost effect".

(4) Paragraph 19 of Decision 75 reads:

"We fully appreciate that given the financial and market constraints that press on the industry, adequate pay and conditions must continue to be dependent on what can be done to maintain and improve productivity. It has been made clear to us that the current proposals for productivity improvements were not before us as a tribunal and we were not asked to take them into account. Nevertheless, we were told by the board that their present offer is dependent on the understanding that negotiations on productivity will continue. Moreover, all parties have pointed out that already substantial progress has been made as a result of negotiations so far this year. We welcome this development, and hope that if our decision gains acceptance further and more substantial progress will be achieved".

(5) In addition to these two understandings, the parties also agreed a preamble which reads as follows:

"As a result of discussions held over the auspices of Acas on August 18, 19, and 20 August 1981, the RSNC has reached an understanding on pay. Stemming from Paragraph 19 of RSNC Decision No 75, a separate understanding has been reached on productivity. Copies of these understandings are attached.

In the event of there being any problem regarding the application of either of the two understandings, the RSNC may request the further assistance of Acas.

The three unions (Aslef, NUR and TSSA) will take immediate steps to implement these understandings for ratification by their respective executives, following which the Aslef and NUR will countermand their decisions to call out their members as from August 31, 1981."

As we understand the origins of the present dispute lie in fact that, there is no universally acceptable view of the obligations incumbent on one or another of the parties in respect of these agreements. We have to state, therefore, what we understand to be the position of each of them, to the best of our ability.

## The views of the parties

The Board's view is that all along they made clear their intention to regard their obligations under sub-paragraph 1(ii) of the pay understanding as "conditional" on satisfactory "progress" in respect of the understanding on productivity.

They assert that although there was somewhat slow progress in the implementation of some other parts of the understanding, there is only one part where they are complaining about the rate of progress at the present time, namely, sub-paragraph 2(c) on "variable rostering hours within limits to be negotiated". And even here their complaint is one directed at the attitude of the Aslef.

The board charges the society with failing to negotiate—by which they mean to present to the society for consideration for inclusion in the terms of the existing agreement on the eight hour guaranteed day...

In effect the board is saying that its declared intention to make the payment conditional on additional 3 per cent conditional on satisfactory progress on productivity justified it in refusing to grant Aslef members either more pay or shorter working hours, until a separate agreement can be reached.

However, the unions appearing before the board do not accept that the board was justified in acting as it did. They stressed that the preamble to the understandings states that the productivity understanding was to be regarded as a "separate understanding" to that on wages.

It was true that reference was made, in paragraph 3 of the pay understanding to the terms of Paragraph 19 of RSNC Decision 75. But, the unions argued, this does not justify linking the 3 per cent payment to



## Peer with a mind for disputes

## McCarthy, the arbitrator

By Ian Bradley

Lord McCarthy has never made any secret of his support for the British labour and trade union movements.

His career owes much to trade union backing. He left school at 14 and worked in a men's outfitters and as a clerk in the Army before winning a scholarship to Ruskin College, Oxford, from his union, the old Clerical and Administrative Workers'.

Lord McCarthy has remained an Oxford constituency ever since. After Ruskin he won a first in PPE at Merton, and became a research fellow at Nuffield College in 1959. He is still a fellow of Nuffield and the Oxford Management Centre and holds a university lectureship in industrial relations. It is for his interventions in disputes, particularly in academic work,

that Lord McCarthy has never

been so favourable to the unions, however. In 1979, for example, he rejected a 10 per cent productivity payment demanded by Aslef and recommended only 5 per cent.

Lord McCarthy has always been a strong supporter of the Labour Party. He was a special adviser on industrial relations to Sir Harold Wilson's government and he led the attack on the present Government's Employment Act when it was going through the House of Lords.

He was ennobled in 1975. Both he and his wife were members of the Oxford Labour Party.

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## Parents' say in curriculum backed by MPs

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Rationalization of the school curriculum and a greater say for parents in the education of their children are recommended by the Commons Select Committee on Education and Science in its report on the school provision for pupils aged 14 to 16, published yesterday.

Mr Christopher Price, chairman of the all-party committee, said their report was "the first comprehensive survey of the secondary school curriculum and its legal framework since the passing of the Education Act, 1944, nearly forty years ago."

In the 150-page, wide-ranging report, the committee says it is convinced of the need to make stock. Confusing and conflicting pressures had produced a secondary curriculum which seemed to have unclear targets. The system generated for children in different schools quite significant inequalities of opportunity.

There were particular problems for children who moved from one area to another. The diversity of curricula left many parents and employers uncertain what to expect. Too many options had been introduced. The curriculum needed to be pruned and planned as a coherent, balanced package for each child.

The committee recommends that the new regulations requiring each school to publish information for parents be amended to lay down a requirement that such information include an explicit statement of the school's curricular aims together with details of what is offered.

It proposes a set of model principles to which the governors, and through them the head and staff of each school, should have regard in drawing up curriculum plans.

The first of those principles, should, in the words of section 76 of the Education Act, be "so far as is compatible

with the provision of efficient instruction and training and the avoidance of unnecessary public expenditure, pupils are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents".

The second, it suggests, drawing on section 8 of the Act, should be that "all pupils have opportunities offering such variety of instruction and training as may be desirable in view of their different ages, abilities and aptitudes".

On discipline, the committee recommends that the school head, staff and governors, including parent governors, should be free to determine the disciplinary policy and practice of their own school.

As reported in *The Times* earlier this month, the committee calls for the Education Act to be amended to give the Secretary of State clear powers to intervene where a "nationally agreed guaranteed (educational) provision appears to be at risk."

However, the committee failed to make clear at its press conference yesterday who would decide what that nationally agreed provision should be, or how it would be guaranteed.

The normally moderate, mildly-spoken Secondary Heads Association, which includes the heads of most of the top public schools and maintained secondary schools, has written a letter of criticism to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, bemoaning the apparent impotence, idleness and lack of vision of his department.

Mr Donald Frist, secretary of the association, says he feels an increasing sense of despair about the whole educational scene.

*The Secondary school curriculum and examinations*, a special reference to the 14 to 16 year group, House of Commons Paper 116-1 (Stationery Office, £7).

## Provincial police get more cash

By Peter Evans  
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government sought to lessen the prospect of cuts in spending on key provincial police forces yesterday by switching more money to them.

The decision was greeted with caution by the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities which was worried that the money available, £13m, would not be enough to meet authorities' needs. Mr Edwin Shore, chairman of the West Midlands Police Authority, one of the worst affected by the government squeeze, said: "Any help, however small, will make a difference. No one wants to see the police budget cut. It is too important for that."

Mr Heseltine said in the Commons that the position of police authorities outside London would be improved by the news yesterday that the next precept of the Metropolitan Police would be based on a budget approved by the Home Secretary providing for total spending of £325m in 1982-83, which was about £15m lower than estimated.

The Department of the Environment said that the £13m would be available to forces outside London.

The move is in response to complaints from the AMA that the Government had increased the approved expenditure for the Metropolitan Police by 24 per cent, compared with an increase for other forces of 3.4 per cent. Five thousand jobs were threatened in six key regional forces according to the AMA.

In the House Mr Heseltine said he had shown his willingness to be flexible, but that was not what a deputation from the West Midlands said after seeing him last week.

He acknowledged that the local authorities had been set tough targets, but the Government attached priority to law and order and had given its costs priority.

The Metropolitan Police said yesterday that its precept had been raised mainly because of pay and price rises, more police officers on the strength, and the cost of civil disorders.

The precept for 1982-83 would be 18.65p in the pound, compared with 15.35p in 1981-82.

## Laker rival leases two DC-10s

By David Hewson

Two of Laker Airways' 380-seat DC-10 aircraft will be back in the air in April, crewed largely by former Laker staff and flying under the flag of British Caledonian.

The firm has reached agreement with the Laker receiver for the lease of the two aircraft during the summer for £1m. The move has saved Britain's smaller package holiday companies from a scramble for plane seats.

The two aircraft were committed to a summer holiday programme to the Mediterranean which would have carried about 175,000 passengers, most of them from small tour firms. British Caledonian's agreement will involve the charter of the aircraft to the tour company, Owner Services Ltd, and the air brokers, Viking International, acting on behalf of a group of 44 other holiday operators.

Mr Alastair Pugh, managing director of British Caledonian, said yesterday: "We are delighted that we will be able to provide the flights to ensure that the summer holiday arrangements of 45 United Kingdom tour companies will operate as planned."

The aircraft will be repainted in British Caledonian's colours for the period of the charter, which runs from April until the end of October, but will still be for sale, in the unlikely event that a buyer for them materializes. The charter will provide temporary work for about 120 people.

British Caledonian has also applied to the Civil Aviation Authority for permission to take over Laker's licence to fly from Gatwick to Los Angeles.

Sir Freddie Laker yesterday continued meetings in the City about his plans for a "People's Airline."

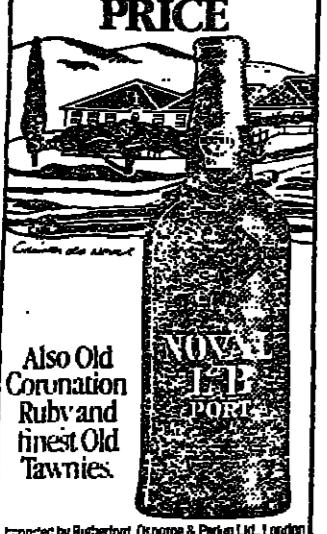
■ Sir Freddie has stopped underwriting new business at Lloyd's, the London insurance market supported by wealthy individuals.

He will remain a member of Lloyd's, but in a letter to his underwriting agents, he now says he will do this in view of his considerable financial problems and bearing in mind Lloyd's continuing means test requirements he felt it only right to cease underwriting to the Provisional IRA.

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The precept for 1982-83 would be 18.65p in the pound, compared with 15.35p in 1981-82.

## THE STYLE IS VINTAGE BUT NOT THE PRICE



## 'Times' unions consider court actions

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The National Union of Journalists is considering making a legal challenge to the decision by the board of Times Newspapers Ltd, to transfer the titles of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* to News International, its parent company.

The NUJ is understood to have consulted the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel, the union most directly affected by planned cuts at the two newspapers on the move. It is expected to meet today with a view to seeking a High Court injunction to prevent Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman of News International, going ahead with any liquidation of Times Newspapers Ltd, as a result of failure to reach agreement with the unions on the job cuts proposed.



Policemen and pickets struggling yesterday outside the gates of the Laurence Scott factory, in Openshaw, Greater Manchester.

## Pickets and drivers clash in dawn raid on factory

Trouble flared outside the closed Laurence Scott factory, in Manchester, yesterday when the owners moved in to take away machinery from the besieged plant. Two people were arrested and later bound over to keep the peace, as stones and bottles were thrown at a convoy of lorries after a barrier had ringed the electro-motors factory in Openshaw, which closed last April with the loss of 650 jobs.

About eighty pickets were present when the lorries arrived soon after dawn. Missiles were thrown and one of the lorries, which were driven by non-union workers.

Before dawn about a dozen workmen with pneumatic drills and hammers had torn down a concrete barrier blocking the plant's main entrance. It was believed to have been put up some time ago by people sympathetic to the workers. The police kept pickets away while the barrier was being torn down.

Last night the police began a 24-hour guard on the factory to allow the management to remove the machinery. The work may last up to 10 days.

## Cannabis found in a car

## Ex-secret agent jailed for drugs smuggling

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Howard Marks, sometime agent for MI6, pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to his part in an international cannabis smuggling group in the early 1970s and was sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

Last autumn, Mr Marks, aged 36, of west London, was found not guilty of being the British mainstay of a plan to import 15 tons of cannabis from Britain from South America, but was jailed for two years for charges involving false passports.

Yesterday Mr John Rodgers, QC, prosecuting, said six loads of cannabis hidden in sound equipment for pop groups was sent to the United States in 1973, but the seventh cargo was discovered. Mr Marks pleaded guilty yesterday after his counsel had asked the court earlier to consider a plea of *alibi* to convict acquit, which Mr James Miskin, the Recorder of London, rejected.

## A tangled world of cannabis and spying

Dennis Howard Marks, described by friends as a charming rogue fascinated by wealth and intrigue, has over the past 10 years gone from research studies at Oxford to partner ship in one of America's largest drug organizations, to work for MI6 against the Provisional IRA.

Last year he was acquitted of being the British mainstay of a transatlantic organization which shipped 15 tons of cannabis into Britain. Yesterday he pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court to his part in a conspiracy to smuggle thousands of pounds worth of cannabis into the United States in a separate operation many years earlier, which had no connection with last year's case.

In the trial last year the Crown conceded that Marks was used by MI6 in 1973. At that trial a Mexican was called in Marks's defence and although the man's credentials could not be checked American sources have told *The Times* that he did work for the Provisional IRA.

According to Marks, another of his former Oxford contemporaries appeared in 1972 with a great interest in McCann's activities. Hamilton McMillan had played the piano in a Balloil show organized by Marks, but now he worked for the Foreign Office. Marks said he was recruited to spy on McCann.

Meanwhile, Marks became part of the European end of a plan to smuggle cannabis to the United States for the Brotherhood of Eternal Love.

The smuggling method was simple, but effective. Hashish was hidden inside sound equipment for rock'n'roll bands said to be touring Europe. The equipment was sent to Europe, packed with drugs and then shipped to the United States.

In November, 1973, Marks was still at Oxford, driving through jobs. He became director of a dress shop in Oxford called Annabels, but the shop was only part of a much wider life.

At Oxford he had been granted another undergraduate degree who later suspected of drug dealing between Britain and the United States and Ireland. The man was also believed to be sympathetic to the Provisional IRA.

At the beginning of the 1970s Marks was still at Oxford, driving through jobs. He became director of a dress shop in Oxford called Annabels, but the shop was only part of a much wider life.

By 1975 Marks was back in Britain. Yesterday it was said that he took a false identity because the publicity surrounding his disappearance and possible links with MI6 might endanger him.

Through his former student colleague, Marks met a man called James O'Neill in Amsterdam, which was the great drug entrepot for Europe. The man's real name was James McCann, a Provisional IRA activist who in 1971 became the first man to escape from Crumlin Road prison, Belfast, in 20 years while awaiting trial on a fire bomb charge.

MI6 and the Dutch police were taking a keen interest in Mr McCann's sick role. The Fox, who lived a flamboyant life in Holland and was suspected of running arms to Northern Ireland.

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## Heseltine aid for high spenders

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has changed the basis on which local authorities are judged to have exceeded the expenditure targets set by his department in a way that may enable some of the high-spending authorities to escape the penalty of a cut in their rate support grant.

The High Court ruled last October that he had acted unlawfully in cutting the rate support grant of six London boroughs. The judges quashed the decision to abate the grant on the grounds that the Secretary of State had failed to listen to new representations from the authorities concerned.

As a result of the new dispensations, announced in the Commons yesterday during a debate on various rate support grant orders, it may be that some of those six authorities will be able to avoid the penalties originally imposed.

Mr Heseltine told the House that he had carefully considered representations and he still intended to reduce the amount of grant payable in 1980-81. Those authorities whose adjusted unit rate exceeded £155 and whose expenditure did not qualify for a waiver, however, he had decided to modify the condition for waivers, and performances would be recalculated.

It is stated that the main function of the Employment Service is to satisfy the employment needs of individual workers seeking jobs and of individual employers seeking workers.

In 1980, with 600 staff working

## Cut Ulster job-finding cost, Rayner says

By Anthony Revans, Political Correspondent

A confidential Whitehall report recommends an 18 per cent cut in the budget for Ulster's Employment Service, with a general rundown in the job-finding facilities offered to the province's 113,000 unemployed.

The study, carried out under the guidance of Sir Derek Rayner, the Prime Minister's adviser on Whitehall waste and efficiency, is said to have elicited Mrs Margaret Thatcher's "particular interest".

But with Northern Ireland unemployment running at about 20 per cent, and with the Cabinet expected to decide tomorrow the fate of the 1,500 remaining jobs at the Dore Lorean Motor Company, in Belfast, the political repercussions of the report could far outweigh the saving of £1.4m a year.

It was emphasized last night that no decisions had yet been taken on the report; but its authors pointed out that the general philosophy behind their conclusions "may be of interest to those involved in similar activities in Great Britain".

It is stated that the main function of the Employment Service is to satisfy the employment needs of individual workers seeking jobs and of individual employers seeking workers.

The report recommends that the law should be changed to bring in voluntary registration with a system similar to one being proposed for Britain.

ing through 27 main offices, the service placed 23,000 people.

The Rayner inquiry, headed by a principal from the Civil Service Department, calculated that with refined figures on employment activities, there was an average cost of placing of about £175.

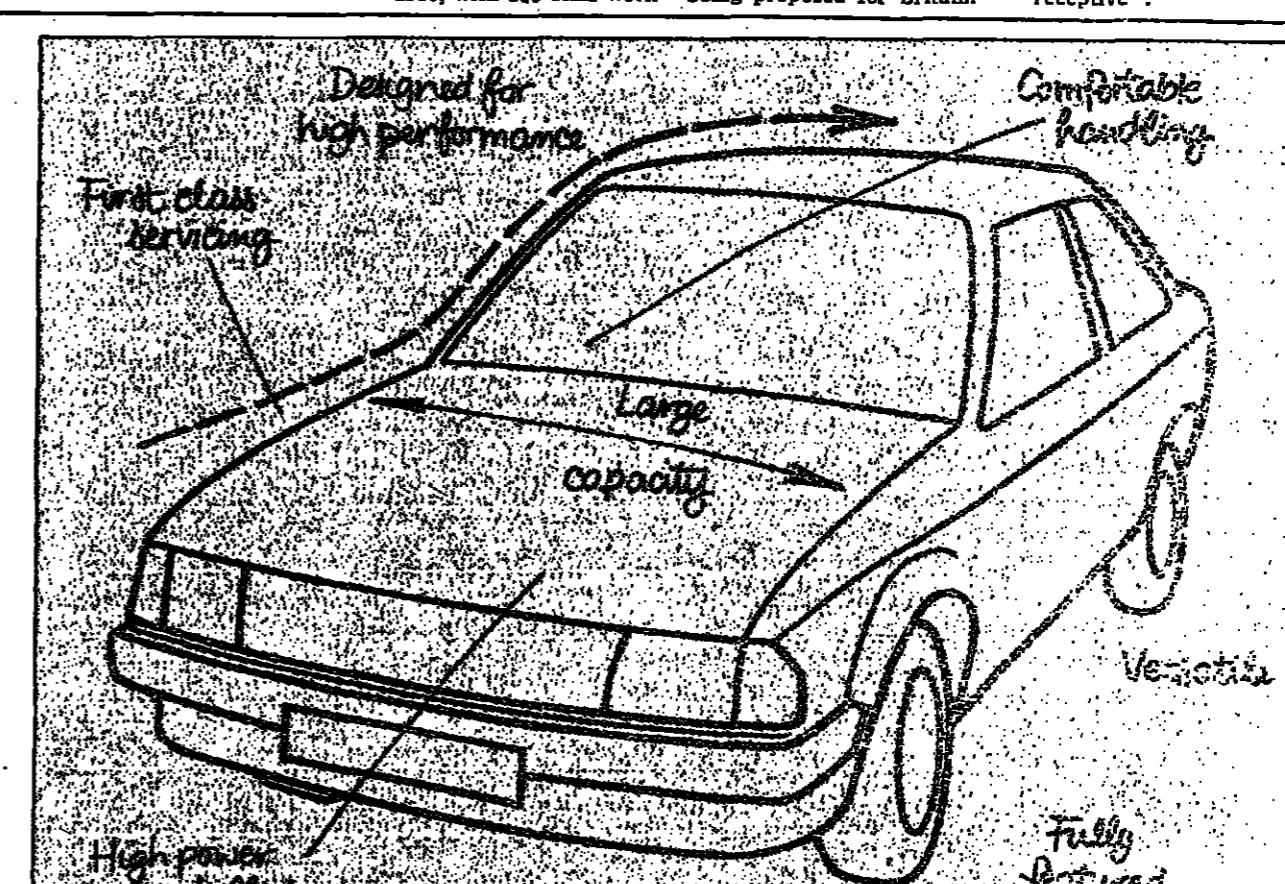
But after an intricate examination of the need for the service to start with, an exercise which was "regarded as unnecessary" by some of those consulted, it was decided that there were a number of serious grounds for complaint.

The report states: "The activities of the service have been directed in recent years towards achieving a larger and better share of the labour market; even to the extent of competing with other means of Health and Social Security.

In January Judge David QC senior circuit judge for Chester and North Wales, jailed her for 28 days because the Merseyside health authorities refused to take responsibility for her.

## Thorpe meets Amnesty staff

Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the former Liberal leader and new director designate of the British section of Amnesty International, met his new staff yesterday. He described them as "very friendly and very receptive".



## Think of your new word processor as a car and you'll drive a CASE 3000

Choosing a word processor can be like choosing a car. What looks a bargain often turns out to be false economy. You quickly outgrow limited capacity; it doesn't have the features you need; it simply isn't powerful enough.

## PARLIAMENT February 16 1982

# Heseltine claims rate targets can be met

## LOCAL FINANCE

While the majority of local authorities had shown that the financial policies he had advocated were reasonable and could be achieved, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said there was still a minority of councils determined to try to frustrate Government policies.

He was seeking for approval of the Rate Support Grant Increase Order 1982, the Rate Support Grant Supplementary Report (England) 1982 and the Rate Support Grant (England).

Of a total of 413 local authorities, 279 were budgeting to spend within 2 per cent of the reduced level and these were not confined to any particular class of authority. They were 31 per cent of shire counties, 69 per cent London boroughs, 47 per cent metropolitan districts and 77 per cent unitary authorities.

Today (yesterday) the report on high spending authorities is to prove why they cannot do what the majority are doing and no longer on me to prove it is possible.

The fact that so many authorities are now demonstrating that with sensible manpower and recruitment savings can be made demonstrates the reasonableness of what I asked for. But though the shift is happening, it is late in the day and unless the pace of the last quarter is maintained, is still below the level needed overall to meet the current spending targets.

Instead of an overall reduction in real terms in current spending, there was a budgeted cash overspend of perhaps £1,300m this year. While the upward spiral had been stopped, the increase in the amount of reduction had not yet been reversed.

I have therefore decided (he said) that I must confirm the withholding of £200m from the 1980-81 rate support grant and it is for this reason that the first order for which approval is sought today provides only an additional £84m grant. This increase is mainly for increased loan charges in that year.

Last October the Divisional Committee while holding back exercised his discretion to abate the grant of six London authorities on valid considerations — quashed the decision on the grounds that he had not been prepared to receive representations from the authorities concerned after November 1980.

He had now carefully considered representations by authorities and had decided to reduce the amount of grant payable in respect of 1980/81 to authorities whose adjusted uniform rate exceeded 155p, and whose expenditure did not qualify for a waiver.

To that extent, the decision

was the same as the one he had announced last year. But he had decided to modify the conditions for waivers.

Authorities that did not gain a waiver on the basis announced last year would have their performances recalculated using urban figures and appropriate re-pricing factors and with urban programme expenditure excluded from the calculation.

These modifications might enable some of the affected authorities to achieve a waiver and gain exemption from grant abatement. But he did not yet know if that would be the case.

The main supplementary report for 1982/83 dealt with paying out £11,500m of grant, provided by the taxpayer, to over 400 authorities.

He was proposing an increase of £8,000m for the planned expenditure next year. This was a 3.2 per cent increase over revised budgets for this year.

The Government's estimate was that given the cash planning factors of 4 per cent for pay and 9 per cent for other costs, local government overall needed to make a 3.2 per cent real terms reduction from the level of this year's budget. This was a tough challenge but realistic target for local government.

The Government had decided that a further means of keeping up pressure on the financing of local government was to introduce a percentage of those plans to be financed at the local level especially given his acceptance of a higher level of overall spending.

For that reason he had called a meeting of local government affected every family's budget but also affected individual ratepayers.

In cash terms that meant the Government would provide an increase of £11,500m in 1982/83 of an increase over £500m in cash on last year's settlement.

To underline the equitable nature of the new targets the Government had built in two constraints. No authority was being asked for more than a 7 per cent real terms reduction from the lower of its original or revised budget for 1981/82 although if an authority increased its budgeted expenditure during the year it would reflect in Government's policy it would be expected to take a larger reduction to offset that increase.

For authorities spending less than their volume target and grant related expenditure assessment the grant real reduction would be 1 per cent.

After discussion with local authority associations the Government had made a number of changes to the housing assessment this year. On rents they assumed an average weekly increase of £2.50. Where that was not the case the production of a housing surplus on housing revenue account, the grant related expenditure assessment was not, like last year, to be a minus figure. It was being set at zero.

The settlement was realistic, fair and achievable. Provided

which he refers — I do not know what the truth or otherwise of what is contained in the motion, but I assume it is true because it was put down (Protests) — I assume it is true for the purpose of this question.

If what it says is correct, and I assume it is, it is serious that young people have been trained in anti-police methods and indoctrinated with extreme revolutionary groups without the knowledge of public figures on Merseyside whose names were originally used in support of this scheme. Mr Heseltine would be reducing the housing subsidies by another £42m. That was going to have to find another £1.125m simply to maintain services and employment at their present levels. Even if they did not increase the production in rate support grant would still mean greatly increased rates and precepts.

That was apart from the Government's insistence that local authorities should calculate their budgets on an assumption



Heseltine: Fair deal



Kaufman: Councils punished

of pay settlements of 4 per cent when settlements to date had been well above that level, and of 9 per cent inflation when it was running at a constant 12 per cent.

Rates were going to go up substantially directly as a result of this rate support grant settlement.

Local authorities were being denied grant because of shortcomings in compiling their grant-related expenditure assessments or mistakes of the Government. In particular it had been proposed that local authorities should have control over numbers.

Mr Jack Carlisle (Runcorn, C) said there had to be an attack on spendthrift local councils and the only criticism of the Government so far could be that the attacks had not been strong enough.

He did not accept the argument that it was not possible to exclude education from cuts, particularly as it took four times as much money as any other local authority service. Of course it was vital the country should have the best possible education system.

They were also punished because the Secretary of State directed its mind to a particular application and the circumstances of the area to which the application related there was no reason under these proposals why the authority should not be able to conclude, if it thought it appropriate, that the area ought not to have a single shop.

Mr Heseltine had let off with 61 out of the 175 local authorities who had failed grant. This left 114 authorities continuing in operation of Mr Heseltine's hold back penalties, but the lash had not fallen. Grant had not been docked.

He had discovered that the hold back operation was illegal. He had to run it to completion already by local authorities from whom he had withheld grant unlawfully. He was not prepared to risk being labelled a wrongdoer by another set of judges.

A clause of the Local Government Bill currently before Parliament was intended to clarify the powers under which such a scheme could be operated. In Heseltine language, clarify meant to retrospectively make lawful that which was unlawful.

Mr Heseltine, who lectured local authorities about the need to conduct themselves lawfully had been conducting himself unlawfully since last June.

If he were not a Minister of State, he said, he would be compelled to lay him out. He would be not helping police with their inquiries. (Renewed laughter.)

The Sunday Times had revealed details of the deep secrets of the almost fortnight ago to discuss the issue of whether the Government's policy it would be achieved.

Mr John McWilliam (Blaydon, C) said nobody could afford to wait for a result of a formula which was less open than the definitions in the bill to understandable objection.

Lady Birk, for the Opposition, said local authority powers to put conditions on permits for amusement centres or other premises should be strengthened. More recently, she had been the eruption of space machines. Powers were needed to control space invaders machines. More and more children were spending more and more time and money on them.

To license establishments specifying in the sale of sex material bothered some MPs, and would doubtless bother some peers, because it gave an aura, an equivalent of a good housekeeping minister's approval of a royal warrant. She would prefer the word permit instead. It had a less encouraging sound.

Lord Evans of Cloughton (L) said he found sex shops and sex cinemas wholly distasteful. But if legislation was based on what he as a middle aged solicitor found distasteful, legislation would all be puritan and restrictive in terms of modern society.

The Bishop of London, Dr George Younger, generally welcomed the Bill. He had deplored wholly the existence of sex shops and sex cinemas because they conveyed and fed upon the debased and inhuman attitude to sex.

Sex establishments must be controlled but this could be done in a way that made clear that it was in control of something undesirable.

The Bill was read a second time.

**Transfer of Times titles before Biffen**

Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, is looking into the transfer of the titles of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* from Times Newspapers Ltd to its parent company, News International, to see whether the law is being upheld, the Foreign Minister indicated at question time.

Mr Geoffrey Nixon (Harrow, C) asked Will Mrs Thatcher consider today instituting an inquiry into the circumstances and effects of the transfer of the titles of *The Times* newspaper?

In particular, will she seek an assurance from Mr Biffen that there has been no breach of the law in the transfer of the undertakings given by the proprietor in January last year?

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: It looks as if the legal situation is very complex. As there is more than one view upon it, I am therefore not the person, as Mr Rippon knows, to pronounce on the legal matter.

Mr Biffen is of course looking into it to see whether or not the law has been upheld.

**Speaker to give ruling on Canada**

The Speaker is to rule tomorrow (Wednesday) on the propriety of the House's reading of the Bill while it is the subject of a petition to the House of Lords and of a writ in the High Court on January 14.

The Saskatchewan case raised points not touched on in the Alberta case. They were issues

Lab), had raised with the Speaker the propriety of taking the Canada Bill tomorrow as the second reading might precipitate an issue to be referred to the House of Lords.

Mr Davis had raised only the question of the petition to the House of Lords for leave to appear in the case brought by the Indians of Alberta, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but in addition the Indian nations of United Kingdom territories had issued a writ in the High Court seeking certain declaratory orders.

The case concerned five instruments which affected the British Crown. They were taken in the Chancery Division of the High Court on January 14.

The Saskatchewan case raised points not touched on in the Alberta case. They were issues

which were different from those raised and on which there was a petition in the House of Lords.

Since these legal submissions are being considered now (he continued) it would be improper to take the Canada Bill to a second reading.

The Speaker said that Mr Ennals had submitted a long document on this question which was being considered. He would give his ruling tomorrow before the second reading debate, which was the appropriate time.

**Parliament today**

Commons (2.30): Questions: Environment, Canada Bill, second reading, Lords (2.30): Debate on need for a better educated working population.

**Bill seeks to make captains take a tow**

Mr John Prescott (Kingston-upon-Hull, Lab) was given leave to bring in a Maritime Safety Bill designed to increase the safety of maritime vessels and their crews in United Kingdom territorial waters.

The Bill, supported by ex-Merchant Navy MPs, would require all vessels in United Kingdom waters to observe the minimum safety standards laid down by Parliament.

It would emphasize that their primary duty was to the safety of their vessel and crew, and would make clear the risks to crews and passengers.

The provision requiring captains to take their first duty to vessel and crew would force them to take towns in difficult circumstances.

The refusal of the captain of the Union Star to accept a tow or aid in extreme conditions was bordering on criminal and reflected the growing pressures on captains to put commercial factors before the safety of vessel and crew.

**No amnesty for royal birthday**

A Government minister rejected a suggestion by Lord Brockway (Lab) for an amnesty for all prisoners not guilty of violent offences on the birth of a child to the Princess of Wales.

Lord Belstead, former Minister of State, Home Office, told during question time: The Government has no plans for such an amnesty.

Lord Brockway: Something must be done about overcrowding in English prisons which governors have described as a British registered vessel. The provision in the Bill that all vessels in United Kingdom waters should observe minimum British safety standards would not add to the risks to crews and passengers.

The vessel Union Star was British-crewed and sailing under an Irish flag, with men of lesser qualification than if she had been a British-registered vessel.

Since these legal submissions are being considered now (he continued) it would be improper to take the Canada Bill to a second reading.

The Government's policy is to

make clear the risks to crews and passengers.

Lord Belstead: Such an amnesty would set aside court sentences arbitrarily and would not do anything to reduce numbers of those getting custodial sentences.

Lord Hunt: It would be inappropriate to involve members of the Royal Family, directly or indirectly, in ameliorating this deplorable situation, however desirable the result and no doubt now joyous the event.

Lord Belstead: I agree.

**Fourth climber dies in Highlands fall**

From Ronald Faux, Fort William

Experienced mountaineers believe that the reason for so many fatal accidents in one day was probably that treacherous icy conditions coincided with fine, clear weather.

Successive thaw and frost had produced an underlying surface of hard ice on to which had fallen much spring drift snow.

A local guide described the art of Scottish winter climbing as a formidable undertaking for which the Alps "can provide useful training". In Scotland the daylight is shorter, the cold as severe, and the weather probably more fickle than in the Alps.

The third climber killed in

Monday's avalanches on Ben Nevis was also named yesterday.

He was Mr Christopher Palmer, aged 35, a telephone engineer, of Highfield Road, Caterham, Surrey.

The varieties of ice that

may be found in Scotland and the speed with which conditions may change are widely recognized as demanding some of the world's best mountaineering standards.

# Split polls offer little comfort to main parties in republic

From Richard Ford, Dublin

The two main political parties in the Irish Republic were offered little comfort yesterday with publication of opinion polls that were divided over the likely winner of the general election to be held tomorrow.

A poll in *The Irish Times*

gave Fianna Fail a 5 per cent

lead and a poll in *The Irish Independent* gave a similar

lead to the Fine Gael-Labour coalition.

But they were agreed that Dr Garrett Fitzgerald, leader of Fine Gael, is still ahead of Mr Charles Haughey, leader of Fianna Fail, in personal popularity, and the polls were unanimous that voters saw unemployment as the main issue.

Taking margins of error into account however, observers believe that the coalition and Fianna Fail are running neck and neck, which made last night's live television debate between the two leaders crucial.

Despite almost three weeks of campaigning on the issue of a tough budget, Fine Gael's vote is holding firm, although the party must be disappointed that Dr Fitzgerald has had some success in widening the debate and putting across the broad-and-better message about jobs and prices.

His party is now seen as being the best one to tackle unemployment, prices and, crucially, the Budget, and the ruling coalition is ahead only on handling Northern Ireland, pensions, social welfare, and reducing the government debt.

If Dr Fitzgerald is defeated tomorrow it may be because he failed to widen the ground on which he was fighting and allowed Fianna Fail to take the initiative and hammer away at rising unemployment, now standing at 147,500, and soaring inflation.

The poll in *The Irish Independent*, taken last Thursday, Friday and Saturday, gives the coalition 48 per cent, Fianna Fail 44 per cent, and 7 per cent for others.

## IRISH ELECTION

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## Peer intervenes over prison solicitor scheme

By Frances Gibb

Lord Benson, adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England and chairman of the Royal Commission on Legal Services, which reported in 1979, has made representations to the Home Office over its refusal to allow the setting up of a duty solicitor scheme in prisons.

His informal intervention comes after proposals for setting up a pilot scheme for duty solicitors to work on a rota basis in prisons in Manchester were rejected by the Home Office.

When the royal commission recommended that such schemes be set up in its report two years ago, the Home Office indicated that it did not object in principle to either duty solicitor schemes or the setting up of lawyers' surgeries.

But when the Manchester Legal Services Committee, a group of 25 lawyers and laymen which monitors and improves legal services in the Manchester area, recently proposed to set up a pilot scheme, the Home Office said that "this is not a good time to take the proposal further".

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk and chairman of the all-party penal affairs group, which has written to the Home Secretary in support of the pilot scheme, said yesterday: "Lord Benson is very concerned and interested in the subject."

"He has been in touch with me to see if there was anything he could do and I suggested he spoke with the Home Office on the merits of the scheme."

Mr Eric Knott, secretary to the legal services committee, said the Home Office would agree to a pilot scheme only if there were the resources to run the scheme nationally.

"They argue that you cannot provide a service in one prison and then transfer prisoners to another establishment where those facilities do not exist. Apart from the fact that prisons have greatly varying facilities anyway, on that basis you would never start anything."

In its letter to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, the penal affairs group points out that prisoners and their families need legal advice on a wide range of problems, such as security of tenure, rent payments and welfare benefits.

Prisoners often did not have a solicitor or if they did he practised a considerable distance from the prison.

"Prisoners often do not seek out and obtain legal advice until it is too late, which can result in serious consequences, including the loss of home and personal possessions and serious financial problems", the group says.



Kiss of joy: Police Constable Ian Bennett with his wife as he left Bristol Royal Infirmary yesterday, a month after being seriously hurt in an attack in the St Paul's district of the city.

## Man loses claim on redundancy age

By Lucy Hodges

A man who complained that British Rail discriminated against him because of his sex and would not let him take voluntary redundancy at the same age as women has lost his case at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

The outcome of Mr Arthur Burton's case is a setback for those who were hoping to force changes in British law

through using the court. "I am very disappointed," Mr Burton, of Armthorpe, Doncaster, said.

Mr Burton, who was employed at British Rail's accounts office in Doncaster, applied for voluntary redundancy at the age of 58 under a railways scheme. He was rejected because he was under 60.

He complained to an industrial tribunal that that amounted to sex discrimination because women were entitled to take voluntary redundancy at 55. But he lost because British law, the Equal Pay Act and the Sex Discrimination Act, exclude pensions or retirement from their provisions.

The state statutory retirement age is 60 for women and 65 for men

After debates lasting for 12 hours in the past two days the Greater London Council was on the point, yesterday, of approving a budget for 1982-83 which although huge, involving £712m of current expenditure, cost the London ratepayers 90p more a week on average, raised more sharply than ever doubts about the council's purpose.

The council's transport plans apparently now need the approval of the Department of Transport and of a bench of lawyers, including the Attorney General, Sir Peter Masefield, chairman of London Transport, is openly advocating its "nationalisation". The GLC's role as a housing authority has faded away, now managing fewer properties than most boroughs.

For all the left-wing rhetoric of the ruling Labour Party, the GLC is run by officials of immense power. Sir James Swaffield, director general, and Mr Maurice Stonefrost, comptroller of finance, in recent weeks have come to dominate GLC policy-making in an unprecedented way.

The Labour Party's attempt to breathe new life into the council has been defeated by the suburbs, the Law Lords and the understandable antipathy of ratepayers to footing the bill for additional highly-paid staff, enterprise boards and police committees.

The GLC's future is now questioned, in private, even by Mr Kenneth Livingstone, its leader. His "moderate"

Labour Party rival, Mr Andrew McIntosh, has made speeches recommending the transfer of the GLC's functions to the boroughs. Next month London Tories are to present yet another petition to the Pensions Minister for reform of the GLC and the Inner London Education Authority.

Symbolically, Labour politicians at County Hall has been represented by Mr Livingstone, harassed by the press in his early months. Mr Livingstone has become something of a star. Of whom else could it be reported that a sample of 100 people stopped in Oxford Street produced 28 who correctly identified the GLC leader's face? (22 identified Mr Livingstone as a former heavyweight boxing champion).

While remaining stridently left-wing, Mr Livingstone has recently had to mature as a politician in order to make compromises and keep his badly divided party together. Labour lost two of its GLC councillors to the Social Democrats, Mrs Anne Sofer in a by-election and Mr Paul Rossi by straight defection.

By tiny margins Labour has tried to tidy up the administrative chaos left by the Lords' judgment. On Monday its estimates package squeaked through, leading Mr Livingstone last night to ask approval for a gross rates precept of just over 37p, up by half on that approved by the Conservatives last year.

Allowing for government grants, that means the GLC will be asking ratepayers for 34.8p in the pound in 1982-83.

spend in 1982-83 £3m on "policy development" and £4m on "development policy". The likelihood is that neither will come to much, although the council does retain a residual blocking role in official and commercial development in the capital.

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## Opponents of heavier lorries unite

### NEWS IN SUMMARY

#### Little rise likely in parole rate

By John Young

An alliance of local authority associations and environmental groups joined forces with the Royal Town Planning Institute yesterday to campaign against the Government's plans to allow heavier lorries on the roads.

It was said to be an unprecedented gathering of forces, and it seems sure to present a formidable parliamentary lobby.

Apart from the institute, it consists of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, the Association of District Councils, the National Association of Local Councils, Transport 2000, the Council for the Protection of Rural England and the Civic Trust.

The campaign is also supported in principle by the Association of County Councils and other organizations, including the National Federation of Women's Institutes, may be invited to join.

Lord Harris of Greenwich, chairman of the Parole Board, said at Hull yesterday that the board was aware of prison overcrowding, which created an extremely serious situation but he doubted if the parole rate would rise dramatically (our Hull Correspondent writes).

If people were to ignore public feeling over parole there would be considerable anxiety. At present half of the people were in prisons were given parole and the failure rate was about 10 per cent.

There was a substantial number of vagrant types and people with mental illness in prison, he said, it was highly objectionable to have the mentally ill in jail, but the programmes for providing secure units for them were extremely slow to develop.

It would be idle to pretend that overcrowding had no impact on any of their decisions. It did not play a central role, but it might have influence on a highly marginal decision where the arguments for and against were evenly balanced.

The board's responsibility was to implement the parole scheme on the basis of the criteria of the Home Secretary in 1975, and prison overcrowding was not one of those conditions.

#### TB tests for pupils

Hundreds of pupils at the Royal School, Wolverhampton, are to be screened for tuberculosis because a sixth-form girl boarder from Hong Kong has contracted the disease. A further hundred at Tewkesbury College, where the girl studied last year, are also to have medical tests.

#### Murder charge

A boy aged 11 was charged at Birmingham juvenile court yesterday with murdering a six-month old girl at his parents' home in Sparkbrook, Birmingham. He was remanded in the care of the local authority until next Wednesday.

#### Council aids buses

Essex County Council is to give £2.2m this year to six bus operators in the county to help them to provide 130 uneconomical but essential services. Five small rural companies will receive £40,000.

#### Penlee inquest date

The inquest on the eight Penlee lifeboatmen and the eight people from the coaster Union Star who died in the Christmas disaster off Cornwall will open at Penzance on March 18.

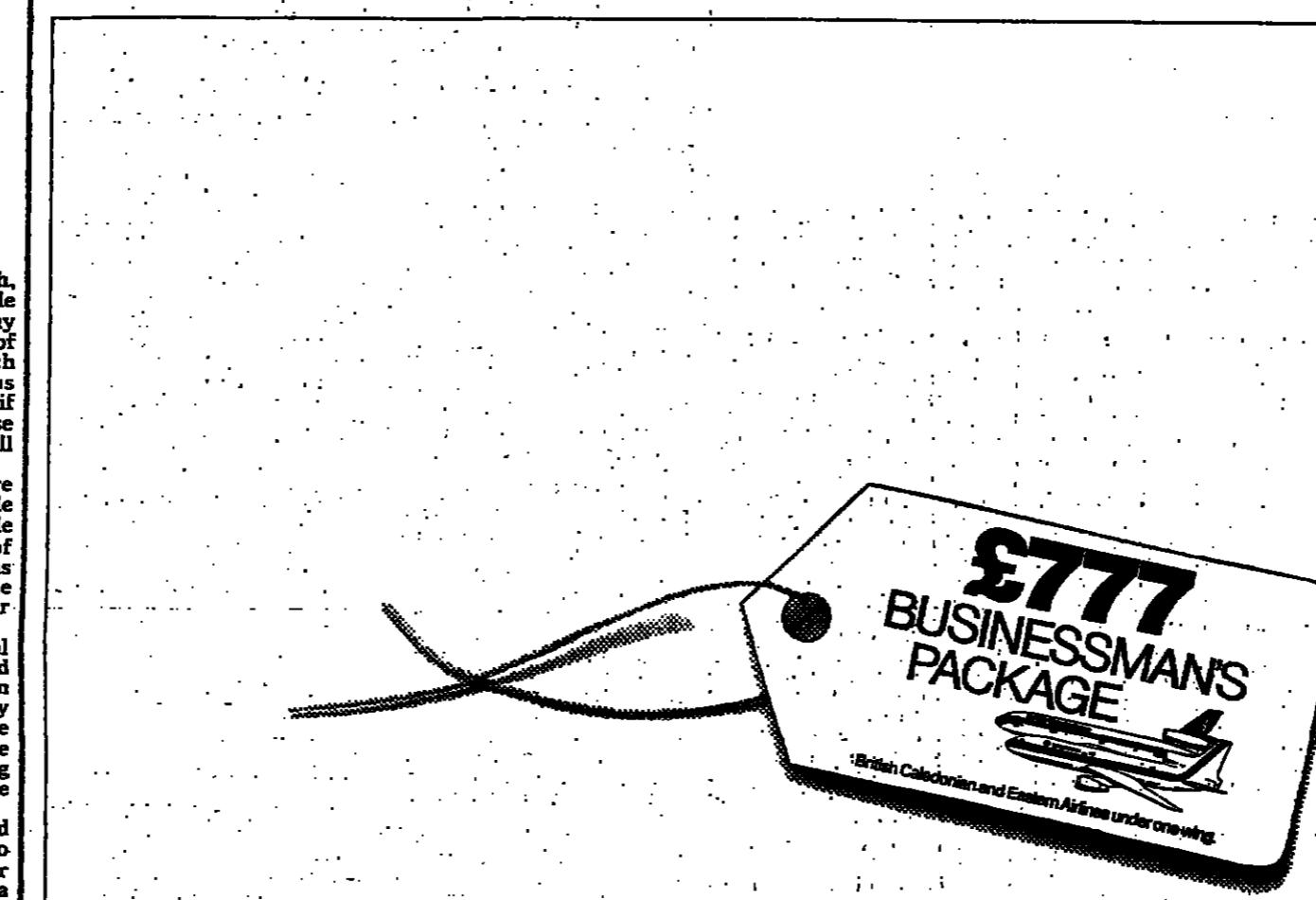
The Princess of Wales at Heathrow yesterday before leaving for a holiday on the island of Windermere, in the Bahamas, with the Prince. They travelled as "Mr and Mrs Hardy" in a British Airways jet, and as they stepped on board they were offered a "bucks fizz," champagne and fresh orange.

## A cooperative for jobs

From Ronald Kershaw, Hartlepool

An experiment financed by the EEC Social Fund, the Church of England, the Manpower Services Commission and Cleveland County Council is to start at Hartlepool in April. Its aim is to promote the cooperative form of organization in industry and provide jobs for young people.

On the initiative of the government-backed Cooperative Development Agency, about £133,425 has been obtained from the EEC fund for the first year; the Hartlepool Deansery of the church will contribute £5,000.



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## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Von Bulow judge warns press

Newport, Rhode Island — The judge in the attempted murder trial of Claus von Bulow threatened to exclude some reporters after they tried to learn the details of a private conference between him and the jury.

Judge Thomas H. Needham had apparently questioned jurors on whether they had read a newspaper report that identified a potential witness as a prostitute. He had agreed to a defence request that there had been "no reference to the woman's profession if she was called to the stand because it could prejudice the jury toward her testimony."

Mr Von Bulow, aged 55, is charged with trying to murder Mrs Martha "Sunny" von Bulow, who is in an irreversible coma, with insulin injections during 1979 and 1980.

### Delhi jet deal with French

Paris.—The Defense Ministry has confirmed that France and India have signed a memorandum of understanding on the sale of 40 Mirage 2000 aircraft to India. The first of which would be delivered in 1984. Negotiations had been in progress for two years.

In the second phase of the deal parts of another 50 aircraft will be manufactured in India; in the final phase total manufacture will be local.

### Gaddafi and Assad to meet

Damascus.—President Assad of Syria and Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, leading figures in the hardline Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, will meet soon, the official Syrian press reported.

The newspapers said President Assad had received telephone calls from both Colonel Gaddafi and President Ali Nasser Muhammad of South Yemen expressing solidarity with Syria.

### King's uncle 'unreliable'



Brussels.—A Brussels court criticized Prince Charles of Belgium, the 78-year-old uncle of King Baudouin as unreliable, forgetful, extravagant and lavish but willing to disinherit his family.

Acquitting the prince's lawyer and his wife, who were accused of swindling him, the court ordered the Prince to pay costs.

### Runcie visit

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, will pay his first visit as leader of the Anglican Communion to the World Council of Churches headquarters in Geneva later this month. He will spend three days in discussion with council staff and leaders.

### Carpenter held

Rome.—Police have arrested an alleged Red Brigades "Carpenter" who they believe made the trunk used to carry off the kidnapped American Brigadier General James Bozner from his Verona apartment on December 17.

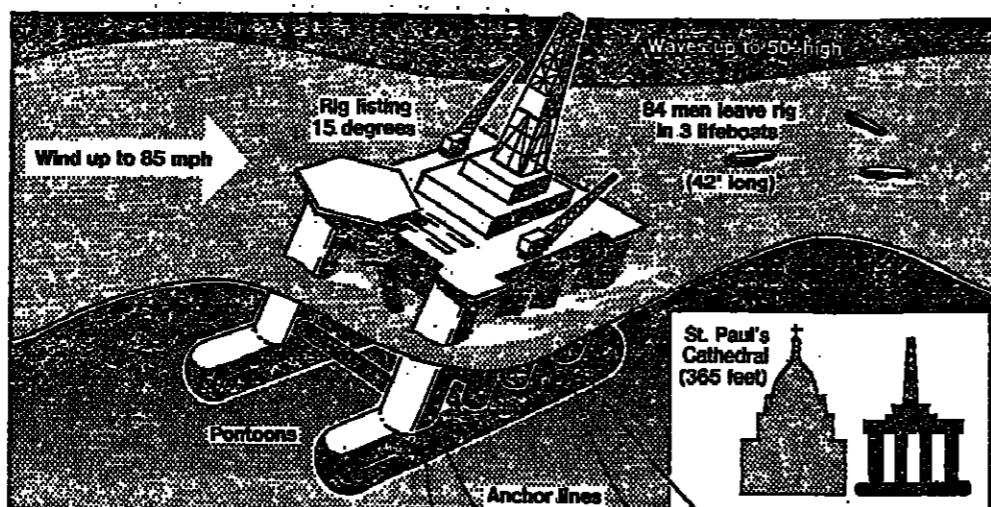
### National strike call by French customs men

From Charles Eargrove, Paris, Feb 16

The work-to-rule by French customs officials, which began three weeks ago in protest against the application of the 39 hour week and the suppression of "perks" and special privileges, has taken a turn for the worse after the breakdown of negotiations yesterday at the Finance Ministry with union representatives.

The communist-dominated CGT branch of customs officials has called for a nation-wide stoppage today and tomorrow, and the leftist CFDT for a one-day stoppage tomorrow. The tension has been especially marked at Hendaye on the Franco-Spanish frontier, where nearly 1,000 lorries, many loaded with perishable goods, were blocked this morning by the strike. The drivers had them-

### Oil rig disaster



### Hazards for crews in angry seas

By Our Foreign Staff

Claims by former crew members of the Ocean Ranger oil rig which sank off Newfoundland on Monday that safety drills were "really lackadaisical" and equipment inadequate has once again raised serious doubts about the safety of such structures.

These inadequacies have led to the gruesome nickname given to the rig by workers on it — the "Ocean Danger". But British officials responsible for safety on oil rigs in the North Sea maintain that British installations are generally well managed and safety practices are respected by the oil companies which operate them.

In the 20 years since oil exploration began, a weight of law has been developed in Britain to ensure that offshore structures are properly equipped with survival capsules and that personnel are trained how to use them.

Under these regulations, an oil rig or platform must be equipped with enough totally enclosed lifeboats with seats for 50 per cent more crew-members than there are on board; they must be equipped with a combination of life-boats and inflatable life rafts with twice as many places as there are members of the crew.

Usually the lifeboats are designed to seat between 14 and 50 men and are meant to survive for up to 30 minutes in a sea blazing with flames. They are entirely self-righting — provided that all passengers are strapped into their seats — they also have their own power, medical and emergency supplies and are fitted with an internal supply of compressed air.

In addition to life-craft, sufficient life jackets have to be provided on board all rigs to cover 150 per cent of the crewmen. Every crewmember has his own flotation life-jacket in his living quarters and the remainder are placed round the rig.

However, there is no requirement that survival suits have to be generally worn or provided. Suits of the kind used to keep men dry and reasonably warm even when he is thrown into the North Sea, are provided only to passengers on most helicopter flights between offshore structures and the mainland.

Safety experts of the British National Oil Corporation say the safety suits available to the majority of the oil companies operating in the North Sea are the best that are available — and no second-generation suits that



have been tested have been shown to be better.

One expert said it was asking the "\$64,000 question" to ask how long someone would survive. It depended on the circumstances at the time.

Mr Geoffrey Woodford, whose Norwich company produces a new survival suit, agreed: "The only way to a measurement is to have an individual prepared to undergo tests until he is clinically dead."

He said there was no international or United Kingdom mandatory specification for a safety suit, and added: "No one at the Department of Trade has the common guts to put their signature on a specification."

Only the Norwegians and the United States Coast Guard had their own specifications, Mr Woodford said.

In the North Sea the mean temperature was °C. The criterion is eight hours survival at zero and two suits do it, the Helly-Hansen of Norway and the Beaufort. They are designed for aviation from platform to base but it is impossible for a man to work inside them.

A number of dry suits are produced for survival in cold water but this is a highly political and highly profit-motivated area. Beyond eight

hours at eight degrees you have flotation suits for general on board deck duties.

"However, if you take the Fastnet disaster, a high percentage of fatalities occurred through individuals making their way to life rafts and sitting in them in cold water. The core temperature of the body is the rectum and the penetration of cold induced the fast onset of hypothermia".

There are two main types of survival suits used by people working on offshore Canadian rigs. One is the floater suit designed to keep a person above water but offering little protection against the cold. It is not highly regarded by helicopter crews or rig workers.

The other is known as the "once only" survival suit which is worn in addition to a lifejacket. It encases the whole body and has a small breathing aperture. It is apparently capable of keeping a man alive in heavy weather conditions for up to four hours, depending on his physical condition and water temperature.

Different rigs apparently use different types of survival suits and present indications are that the Ocean Ranger provided only floater suits.

Some former crew members, developed a 15-degree list.

Newspapers, radio and television here have been full of reports about inadequate safety procedures on the rig and about Canada's ability to respond to maritime emergencies.

In the House of Commons, here yesterday, the Government said it was setting up a commission of inquiry into the disaster. Investigators had already started work in St John's.

Conservative opposition MPs, however, were more concerned for the moment with an examination carried out by federal inspectors on the Ocean Ranger shortly before it sank.

It was not immediately clear whether the inspection was directly related to a scare which occurred last week when, according to reports, the Ocean Ranger, nicknamed Ocean Danger by

the capsizing of the Ocean Ranger in heavy weather off Newfoundland, with the loss of life has raised questions about the seaworthiness of the rig and about Canada's ability to respond to maritime emergencies.

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the capsizing of the Ocean Ranger in heavy weather off Newfoundland, with the loss of life has raised questions about the seaworthiness of the rig and about Canada's ability to respond to maritime emergencies.

Yesterday, representatives of the French lorry drivers organizations openly threatened to resort to force if no solution were found to the problem. "Rather violence than bankruptcy," one of them declared.

The situation eased somewhat at the end of the morning when the drivers agreed to start moving again, on being issued by French police with "transit certificates" stating that they had crossed the frontier without customs inspection "for strike reasons".

But this is regarded by the drivers as only a provisional solution.

### Red brocade at coup trial

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Feb 16

A warehouse near Madrid where the Spanish Army usually keeps paper for making maps will be the site of the court martial of officers involved in last year's attempted coup, which opens on Friday, four days before the first anniversary of the attempt which shook the country's new democracy.

The warehouse has been converted and what a party of 150 Spanish and foreign journalists and photographers, who were shown over today, found were the solemn trappings of Spanish military justice.

Red brocade is everywhere between the corrugated iron roof and the brick walls, including on the chairs of the 17 military judges, all generals, and those of the 33 defendants, three of them generals, 29 other officers,

and one solitary civilian. Behind the judges' bench is a large brocade tapestry, interlaced with silver thread, bearing the emblem of the Supreme Council of Military Justice.

Officers taking the press round explained that to keep down the costs of such a big court martial, expected to last at least 30 to 35 days (Saturdays included), the chairs had been supplied from the Stock of the Ministry of Culture.

The journalists were taken in army buses, after surrendering identity cards or passports, six miles along a motorway south-west of Madrid to where the Army's geographical service is located on an encampment watched over by armed troops in turrets at regular intervals along long high walls.

Behind them come more than 300 places for relatives of the accused men (each is allowed up to six), and observers from military regions. Space is left for about 30 members of the public, to be accommodated in the order in which they line up before the geographical unit's main entrance.

### Weinberger fears fall of Salvador to Cuba

From Mohsin Ali Washington, Feb 16

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, said today the United States could not afford to have El Salvador fall into the hands of Cuban and Soviet-backed leftists, but he did not discuss what action could be taken.

He said in a television interview that Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, had correctly stated the position by emphasizing that all Caribbean countries were confronted by a growing threat from Cuba and its new ally Nicaragua.

Mr Haig told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently that the United States was not alone in its support of the Salvadoran Government.

President Reagan is due to make a major policy speech — probably next week to the Organisation of American States (OAS) — aimed at assisting countries facing severe economic problems in the Caribbean.

The assistance package would include trading opportunities, investment incentives and increased financial aid, and some proposals will soon be put to Congress.

American officials today could not say whether the President's speech, still in the drafting stage, would contain references to Cuban activities in the Caribbean and Central America.

Mr Haig in his Senate Foreign Relations Committee statement said that at a meeting of the OAS in St Lucia last December, 22 out of 29 nations voted in favour of the Salvadoran programme for elections; only three voted against.

He observed: "A collective response to the danger is emerging within Central America with the formation of Solidarity, the suppressed Polish trade union, as they sang the Polish hymn 'God save Poland' during an audience in the garden of the papal embassy in Nigeria.

He received some 300 members of the Polish community in Lagos, including Solidarity members among the experts working there, as his five-day visit to Nigeria drew to a close.

Wearing Solidarity badges,

they handed out petitions and sang the hymn with the line,

"God give us back our free country". The Pope listened with a faint smile, while Dr Witold Jurasz, the Polish Ambassador to Nigeria, stood in

silence.

The Pontiff spoke to his compatriots of martial law in Poland, and said that the rights of all nations should be respected. In Poland, the



Tight moment for the Pope as he dresses for Mass in Lagos Cathedral

### Poles sing to Pope in Lagos

Lagos, Feb 16.—The Pope listened today to members of Solidarity, the suppressed Polish trade union, as they sang the Polish hymn "God save Poland" during an audience in the garden of the papal embassy in Nigeria.

In an address to diplomats, the Pope said that human beings should express freedom "in the responsible determination of their action and in that self-mastery which excludes external constraint".

"Not in vain have the Poles fought for their liberty... All this is part of the spiritual heritage of the Pope

on January 19 of the Central American Democratic Community, Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador were joined on January 29 by Venezuela, Colombia and the United States to help carry through the democratic transformation of El Salvador.

"Cooperating with our friends and allies in the region, we will do whatever is necessary to contain the threat."

But Mr Haig has repeatedly pointed out that there are no current plans for the use of American forces.

■ San Salvador: President Duarte has called on all Salvadorans to vote in next month's elections as the only peaceful and democratic way out of the country's present crisis (Reuter reports).

His plea was contained in a statement to reporters after a cabinet meeting at which social, political, economic and military situation was discussed.

President Duarte said: "Those who believe they will accomplish their aims of weakening the Government's position, carrying on slanderous campaigns... have the opportunity to reach their goals democratically in the elections set for March 28."

The civilian-military junta headed by President Duarte has said that the elections for a constituent assembly will take place "even if the guerrillas blow up a thousand bombs" on polling day to keep people from voting.

■ London: Up to 30,000 refugees from El Salvador are in "extreme peril" as atrocities committed by army death squads continue to escalate, according to a British Council of Churches delegation which has just returned from the Honduras and El Salvador border (the Press Association reports).

The delegation, which included Lord Avebury, chairman of the Government's committee to send observers to the forthcoming elections.

In his letter to Mr Reagan, he gave a warning that selling F16 jets and Hawk mobile missiles to Jordan would pose "one of the gravest potential dangers we have faced ever since the renewal of our statehood".

He asked: "If those sophisticated weapons are to be supplied to Jordan, just as similar ones have already been committed to Saudi Arabia, it will become of the qualitative and quantitative edge you were so kind to promise me?"

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, issued the assurances yesterday. He said: "There is no change in policy towards Israel. There is no proposal or plan for us to sell weapons to Jordan." He said a policy statement by Mr Reagan denying a shift in attitude towards Israel would be issued by the White House this afternoon.

Other officials said Mr Reagan had drafted a letter assuring Mr Begin that United States relations with Israel would remain close despite his Administration's criticisms of certain aspects of Israeli actions.

A new hard-line Israeli envoy, Mr Moshe Arens, officially began his duties in Washington, today. Mr Reagan called Mr Arens, a member of the Knesset for eight years, to receive his credentials as Ambassador and review United States-Israeli relations as well as the peace process in the Middle East.

Behind them come more than 300 places for relatives of the accused men (each is allowed up to six), and observers from military regions. Space is left for about 30 members of the public, to be accommodated in the order in which they line up before the geographical unit's main entrance.

Mr Weinberger today described Mr Begin's criticisms as "pre-emptive reaction".

In an address to the press, Mr Wedgwood Benn last night accused the Reagan administration of dragging the British economy into a deeper recession than experienced during the 1930s.

In a lecture on democratic socialism to students at the University of Maryland, he said that there were growing signs that the peoples of Europe viewed the crude capitalism of the west with as much revulsion as the state communism of the East.

He forecast that the 1980s would see movements for national independence, political democracy, peace and development. In strength, they would also challenge the claims of the two superpowers to divide the world between their spheres of interest.

Mr Benn said: At the same time as the USA is seen to support so many rotten dictatorships all over the world, as in El Salvador, Chile and Turkey, it demands human rights, free trade unions and democratic elections in Poland, which its own policies are denying to millions of others in areas where America has great influence".

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**NEWS IN  
SUMMARY**

**Party boycotts  
Malta ceremony**

Valletta — Malta's fifth parliament since independence was inaugurated in the absence of the Nationalist Party members. Although it polled most votes in last December's general election, the majority of seats were taken by Mr Dom Mintoff's Malta Labour Party (Austin Sammam writes).

Dr Eddie Fenech Adami, the leader, read a statement in which Nationalist party members said that they would not attend parliamentary sittings until the present constitutional crisis had ended. It has accused Mr Mintoff's Government of engineering a situation where the party with most votes would remain in opposition.

**'Flying Feather'  
is caught**

Hongkong — Left-wing newspapers here have acclaimed the capture of China's most wanted criminal, Li Yu-ching, known as "Flying Feather", because of his skilful evasion of arrest.

He has been hunted over the past 12 years accused of 300 crimes, including rape, robbery, assault and hooliganism—but not murder. When he was at last arrested, by three militiamen and eight cadres, the capture was celebrated with fireworks at a public gathering near Peking and his captors received bicycles and wrist watches.

**Party members'  
£40,000 fraud**

Peking.—A fraud covering seven Chinese provinces and involving about £40,000 has been discovered by the Shaanxi authorities, newspaper in the province said.

Helped by party members, a gang led by the purchasing agent of a tool factory and trading warehouse speculated in goods under state control for three years before being caught.

**Rocket crashes**

Kuopio, Finland. — A Soviet rocket crashed in the Karelia region of the western Soviet Union minutes after being launched from a military base in the Kola Peninsula, witnesses said here.

**Ex-Civil Guard shot**

Madrid. — A retired Civil Guard, aged 60, was shot dead while strolling with two friends in San Sebastian. One of his friends was wounded.

## Suzman says police beat cell death detainee

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Feb 16

The South African Parliament in Cape Town today heard allegations that Dr Neil Aggett, the young white trade unionist found hanged in his prison cell was stripped naked, beaten and otherwise mistreated while being interrogated by security police.

The accusation was made during a debate on security legislation by Mrs Helen Suzman, the veteran member of the opposition Progressive Federal Party. She said her evidence came from another detainee, whom she declined to name, who had witnessed the alleged assault on Dr Aggett by three policemen.

From Mrs Suzman's description of it, however, the mistreatment of Dr Aggett would not necessarily have left any visible marks on his body, and need not, therefore, be inconsistent with a post mortem finding of the kind indicated by Mr le Grange.

Mrs Suzman, who is the

chief opposition spokesman on civil liberties, had earlier declared that whatever the post mortem and inquest findings turned out to be "it was Section 6 of the Terrorism Act which killed Neil Aggett".

Section 6 allows the security police to hold suspects indefinitely without trial and in solitary confinement for the purpose of interrogation.

Dr Aggett, who was arrested last year with a score or more of other trade union and student activists, had been in detention for 70 days.

□ A woman detained under the security laws since January 5 was admitted to hospital yesterday with a respiratory complaint, her daughter said in Johannesburg today (Reuters reports). Mrs Esther Lewitan, a grandmother in her late 50s, is at least the third woman detainee in South Africa to be admitted to hospital since Dr Aggett's death.

Her daughter, Mrs Lesley Isaacson arrived last week from London and saw her mother on Friday. Mrs Lewitan, a member of the anti-apartheid Black Sash organisation, was detained only three days after returning to South Africa from a stay with her daughter in Britain.

## GOVERNOR FORCED TO RESIGN

From Kuldip Nayar  
Delhi, Feb 16

Mr T Anjiah, the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, today submitted his resignation on the advice of Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister.

The state is run by the Congress (I) Party and, therefore, there was no question of Mrs Gandhi's directive being flouted. But what has raised eyebrows is that he resigned after a display of annoyance by Mr Rajiv Gandhi, Mrs Gandhi's son. Mr Gandhi was recently in Andhra Pradesh on a "build-up" tour and grew angry over the "ostentatious welcome" which the state had arranged.

However, Mr Anjiah believes that he has been asked to resign not because Mr Gandhi is annoyed with him but because Mrs Gandhi thinks that he is not the "right person" to lead the Congress (I) to victory in the forthcoming elections for the Andhra Assembly.

## Namibia alliance split leaves Pretoria adrift

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg, Feb 16

The resignation of Mr Peter Kalangula, the black president of the multi-ethnic Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, and the subsequent departure of his own Ovambobased party will make it more difficult in the short term for the South African Government to sell the idea of Namibian independence to right-wing white opinion here, according to Western diplomats.

The alliance was created by the South Africans during the 1970s and, before Mr Kalangula's resignation, consisted of 11 different parties each representing an ethnic group (including whites) among Namibia's population of about one million. The whites account for about 11 per cent of the total.

The loss of Mr Kalangula and his party is a devastating blow because the Ovambospeaking group of tribes in the north constitute nearly half the population and are also the main source of support of Swapo, the guerrilla organization which would be the alliance's main opponent in pre-independence elections.

So long as the alliance retained an electoral base among the Ovambos, the South African Government, whatever its private view of the alliance's real chances, was able to offer some prospect to right-wing whites.

Whatever credibility had as a realistic moderate alternative to Swapo has been destroyed with Mr Kalangula's departure. The question now is whether, having broken free of the alliance's tainted embrace, Mr Kalangula can, on his own, develop into a far more serious challenge to Swapo than the multi-party alliance ever was.

One factor in his favour, as an ordained Anglican priest, could be the strong influence of church organizations among the Ovambos, about 80 per cent of whom are Christians (mainly Lutheran and Roman Catholic). He is also a personality of some force and charisma.



## Opposition parties merge in Brazil

From Patrick Knight,  
Sao Paulo, Feb 16

Brazil's two biggest opposition parties have voted overwhelmingly to merge in an attempt to defeat Government moves to ensure their defeat in Congressional elections to be held in November this year.

However, the merger of the Marxist Popular Party and the Brazilian Democratic Party has still to be approved by the country's electoral tribunal, and the military-led Government may intervene to try to frustrate the merger.

The amalgamation should guarantee the new grouping of governorships of most of the major states, and perhaps 70 per cent of the popular vote, in the elections for Congress, which will choose President Figueiredo's successor in 1984.

The Government decided last November to institute measures which would oblige voters to select candidates from one party in any area, a move which would have favoured the well-organized Government party, the Social Democratic Party.

Voters have recently generally chosen Government party candidates for local authority positions, largely because Government party men have been in position to deliver the goods. In contrast, the voters have increasingly tended to vote for the opposition for central government positions.

Linking the vote was supposed to persuade electors to give priority to the local issues which affect them most, and consequently tip the balance at central level too.

The Government has no intention of allowing the opposition to be victorious. Its view of democracy has been clearly defined as working gradually towards wider participation in the electoral process, but without involving an actual transfer of power.

It is widely believed that more measures will be announced by the government to divide the opposition in the next few weeks, as well as regulations regarding the use of television by the various parties.

The fundamental question is whether the regime which has ruled Brazil since 1964 still has the strength and unity to hold together its various backers, and push through new measures.

Those which favour the Government in one state often tend to have the opposite effect elsewhere.

## Chemical war gibe draws Soviet anger

From Harry Debellus, Madrid, Feb 16

American accusations that the Soviet Union mass-produces and uses chemical and biological weapons brought an irate reply from Mr Leonid Il'yich, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, at an informal closed-door meeting of heads of delegations of the Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention.

Mr Max Kampelman, the chief United States delegate, brought up the subject in response to a Soviet remark, at last Tuesday's plenary session, that the United States was engaged in the preparation of chemical weapons.

The American expressed surprise that the new grouping of governorships of most of the major states, and perhaps 70 per cent of the popular vote, in the elections for Congress, which will choose President Figueiredo's successor in 1984.

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The paper said that the authorities approved of these activities and had even allowed a convention to prepare special food for Adam Michnik, the interned dissident, who, it said, was suffering from a stomach disorder.

However, referring to "sensational" reports by Western radio stations, the paper said that there were indications that some of those allowed to come into contact with the internees perceived their tasks and

— Reuter.

The paper also reported that small private and cooperative exporters in Poland are receiving bank credits again. Many banking facilities were suspended when martial law was imposed.

□ Geneva: A world Council of Churches delegation just back from Poland said today that it believed Western economic sanctions were hurting the Polish people and asked for protests, particularly against food sanctions.

— Reuter.

## There is a rose in Spanish Harlem



**EAST 103<sup>RD</sup> STREET**  
Tonight 10.30pm.

**CENTRAL**

# Drastic measures needed to save EEC, Thorn says

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Feb 16

If member states failed to take drastic economic measures, including wage controls, to stimulate industrial activity, "we may be faced with serious problems of social stability," Mr Gaston Thorn, president of the EEC commission, said yesterday at European Parliament.

Mr Thorn, in spite of claiming to be an optimist, presented a depressing picture of dissension between the 10 member nations. "The unrelenting recession is strengthening the temptation to go it alone which will eventually lead to fragmentation of the internal market," he said while outlining the commission's programme for the year.

The Community is lurching from wine war to turkey fight, to budget disputes. Restructuring of the steel industry is being slowed down because no one will willingly accept redundancies in regions already hard hit by the economic crisis".

Threats to the ideal of a single market were coming from all sides. "The single market is a priceless, irreplaceable asset," Mr Thorn said. "If it were destroyed the Community could not survive".

The bones of contention might appear trivial, but they were symptoms of the difficulties now facing the Community which would not be solved by increasing doses of industrial restructuring or management of the milk sector, the trend of agricultural expansion and technical details of measures to help the United Kingdom.

In the circulated text of his speech, Mr Thorn also said: "My fear is that these issues have proved intractable because they are simply a front for our EEC governments' waning commitment to Europe". This was immediately interpreted by observers here as a criticism of the British demands.

Mr Thorn conceded that Britain's budget problem had been the biggest obstacle to fruitful discussions on the Community's future. "We should clear about the deadlock", he said. "To begin with, the economic crisis leaves nothing to spare in national budgets and contributions to the Community budget are therefore viewed rather short-sightedly as a luxury to be kept for more prosperous times."

"There are also differences about the function of the EEC budget. It is not an equalization mechanism, designed to give back exactly what each has paid in; nor is it strictly comparable to a national budget.."

"Our first task must be to resolve the United Kingdom problem, though this must not lead to the admission of the *juste retour* principle, which would mean an end to solidarity between the member states."

The difficulty, he said, was that if compensation to the United Kingdom was financed solely from the Community's "own resources", virtually all the available margin would be used up.

## Farm ministers prepare for prices marathon

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Feb 16

The European Community's agricultural ministers prepared for a marathon price-fixing session here today, when they cancelled their next meeting and rearranged it to run parallel with the European summit meeting at the end of next month.

This means that the council has faced up to the reality that the price fixing is now inextricably linked with negotiations about Britain's budget contribution to the EEC.

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, made it clear yesterday that he would oppose proposals for a 9 per cent increase in farm prices, and he made his point with such vehemence that none of his colleagues had any illusions that Britain would negotiate the two issues separately.

The new Agricultural Council dates are March 29-31, which means that the ministers will be meeting at the same time as the heads of government making it possible for the summit to monitor the concessions and progress being made.

## Peking 'duck' for diligence

Peking, Feb 16. — Many Chinese employees are reluctant to be singled out as "model workers" for fear of being ridiculed and ostracized by their workmates, the Communist Party's People's Daily reported today.

The newspaper said that model workers, selected for their diligence, were frequently criticized as supermen devoid of human failings. But the situation had improved in the two years since soldiers and workers were scorned as toadies for saving a boy from drowning. — Reuter.



Mr. Thorn: he painted a depressing picture

Last summer's riots in Brixton, Moss Side and Toxteth brought new fears into our city streets — and as summer 1982 approaches few are confident that they will not recur. Inner city riots, however, are just one ugly tip of Britain's urban crisis. As part of the debate on the wider problem The Times has chosen four places that sum up the special problems of our cities as a whole: unemployment, bad housing, racial tensions and one-party government.

Consider any list of British towns and cities: London, Plymouth, Southampton, Swansea, Solihull, Poole, Coventry, East Kilbride, Doncaster, Rochdale, Wigan, Manchester, Dundee, Glasgow. Urban Britain is diverse. There are good and prosperous cities as well as those in decline.

This list is based on a scheme put together two years ago by Professor David Bonnison. Each place represents a category: regional service centre (Plymouth for example); residential suburbs (Solihull); engineering towns such as Doncaster and inner concentrations such as Manchester.

Bonnison was searching for the formula that makes the good city — where people have jobs, skills, where households own cars and all the houses mod. cons.

The Times has chosen Coventry and Swansea which are, or rather were, relatively good cities; Glasgow and Manchester have obvious problems. None of these are uniform characteristics.

For example, there are concentrations of vulnerable old people in the otherwise advantaged resort towns such as Southport or Bournemouth. London is always a problem to classify: its proportion of non-whites is the highest of any urban area but as a whole it appears favoured in terms of the skills of its working population and the relative absence of social disruption among its families.

But any analysis of British urban conditions shows up Bonnison's problem. It is easier to define the bad than the good city.

A small number of fairly easily defined cities — inner conurbations — are under stress; their population is disproportionately vulnerable to poverty, joblessness and poor conditions of life. They are central

to the inner areas. Its beginnings should, perhaps, go back to Sir Harold Wilson's Urban Programme of 1968. The Heath Government, notably through Mr Peter Walker, began both a series of special grants and large-scale studies of the inner areas.

Then came Mr Peter Shore, Labour's Secretary of State for the Environment, in a speech at Manchester in September, 1976, he made a classic statement of the case for special urban policies. Mr Shore said: "Twentieth century civilization has been based upon cities and if, in the process of change, the inner areas are simply allowed to decay — and their inhabitants to languish — the country as a whole will be the poorer."

The doctrine is not, however, self-evident. Many people have looked at the scale of expenditure necessary to "solve" the problem of the inner cities and concluded that the task is impossible and that social and economic change should be allowed to take their course, with the Government cushioning those people most directly affected.

The Conservatives have

especially to live with the Wodgeton factor. Wodgeton, of course, belongs to fiction or, more precisely put, to the Tory historical imagination, the vestigial fear of the possessing classes of a revolt by the poor and downtrodden.

Wodgeton was a joke in Benjamin Disraeli's novel *Sybil*. But under the joke — about the brutalized inhabitants of an industrial town rising up and sacking an aristocratic mansion — lay a contemporary fear. The fear has not entirely gone. For many southern Conservatives, Toxteth is just as improbable and foreign as Wodgeton was to Disraeli's reader.

An obvious reaction to Toxteth and Brixton was a law and order response: sending in the modern equivalent of the dragons. Instead the events were used, thanks in part to Mr Bessemer's sense of political timing, to revive the urban policy. Within major spending constraints, this is what Mr Bessemer has done: use all the administrative shots in the locker to do something, or be seen to be doing something for the cities.

David Walker

## Four cities, four crises • The first in a major Times series



Scotland, Glasgow city and the conurbation from Greenock to Coatbridge (with the city of

Dundee sharing many

characteristics of the area); the

inner areas of Birkenhead,

Gateshead, South Shields,

Sunderland, Bootle, Liverpool,

Manchester, Salford, Newcastle,

Nottingham, Birmingham, Hull,

and Leeds.

It was the discovery during the

1970s of the multiple incidence of

social stresses in the inner city

areas that spurred a great boom in

public policy — a boom that with a

pause has now, after the riots,

## The fall of the New Jerusalem

### 1/MANCHESTER • UNEMPLOYMENT



Fading future of the man from Moss Side

finding a job, they are likely, if at all, better off than those who stayed behind.

Manchester is not just an industrial town, threatened with the loss of its major industry, like Coventry, or a seaport whose trade has moved elsewhere, like Liverpool. The city's public relations department does not exaggerate (whatever they may feel in Leeds or Newcastle or Liverpool) when it boasts that Manchester is the "accepted capital" of the North of England.

For a hundred years it has been a great European "second city", fit to be compared with Hamburg or Milan or Barcelona. The question now is how long it will be able to hold on to that rank.

It is a transport hub, with a better system of urban motorways than London and a major international airport. It is an exciting city for sport, for music, and for the theatre. It supports two symphony orchestras, two important theatres, and a "fringe" of excellent restaurants, fashionable discos.

It is second only to London as a centre of higher education, with three universities (Manchester itself, UMIST and Salford) as well as a big Poly, the Royal Northern College of Music, the business school, the National Computing Centre and the biggest medical school in western Europe.

As a result it is a magnet for young people. Over 26 per cent of the population is between 15 and 29, against less than 22 per cent nationally. Until recently, in fact, Manchester was doing just what established cities in developed countries must do: it was moving out of manufacturing into services.

Suddenly that recipe has gone sour. With a severe cyclical recession superimposed on the downward trend in manufacturing, the disappearance of jobs in industry has accelerated sharply. At the same moment, partly because of the recession, but also partly because of the Government's public expenditure cuts, the compensating growth in service jobs has stopped short. The effect has been rather as if the city's economy has suddenly hit a brick wall.

The chief executive of the Greater Manchester Council expects that 10 years from now the county will have about 230,000 fewer jobs than people looking for them. And even that figure is calculated on what could well turn out to be over-optimistic assumptions: that the economy as a whole will pull out of recession, that manufacturing will decline no faster than in the 1970s; and that service employment will remain buoyant.

In Manchester, as elsewhere, part of the cause of this decline has been a poor rate of investment. Manchester has had far less than the national average of investment in manufacturing industry: £7 per head, as against £152 in Wales and £186 in the North. One reason for this is the large proportion of all investment in manufacturing in Britain that has been subsidized by government.

Under regional development grants, in 1979-80, Manchester received only £3.70 per capita, against £50.60 for Wales and £70.90 for Merseyside. And Manchester is scheduled to lose all development grants from central government when it loses assisted-area status this year. Officials are specially bitter that this will also mean losing any hope of regional development funds from the European Community.

There is a certain rough justice in this, though Manchester is no worse off than some. What the Moss Side rioting revealed was that apart from the specific local pressures crowding in on an inner city neighbourhood with a high concentration of black people and of other groups with special problems, Manchester, too, even relatively prosperous Manchester, is going through an urban crisis.

NEXT WEEK  
Glasgow: towards a housing solution

## Wasted land, wasted lives

by David Walker

All metropolitan areas are losing manufacturing jobs which are not being replaced by growth in other sectors. The adaptability of private business has either withered from within or been crushed without.

New entrepreneurs in the shape of committees of one public agency or another have had insufficient flair or the taxing power has been

permitted to grow.

The result is an absolute and relative increase in big city unemployment. In 1970 Manchester's unemployment was 85 per cent of the rate in the whole of Britain; it was the same as Britain's in 1975; it is now more than 106 per cent of the national rate.

The inner urban cores have been losing jobs for 20 or more years, but with the mass unemployment of recent years differences blur.

Results from the 1981 Census have not yet been processed. When they are,

the trends in employment evident between the censuses of 1961 and 1971 will certainly be shown continuing into the past decade and accelerating. In the 1960s manufacturing jobs decreased in number by 18 per cent on Clydeside, by 20 per cent in the Manchester area, by 9 per cent Merseyside (where manufacturing has never been as important as in the other conurbations), by 10 per cent in the West Midlands, and by 16 per cent in the Leeds-Bradford conurbation.

Manufacturing jobs were not replaced by work in transport or distribution or mining or construction; these sectors were in decline, too. Growth occurred, but not everywhere, in what the Standard Industrial Classification calls "other services".

Growing by more than 20 per cent in the decade 1961-71 in all conurbations except Mer-

seyside and Greater London, these were jobs in insurance, banking, the professions and public administration.

The decline in manufacturing has been most marked in the inner urban areas. Planners, socialist city councillors and international capitalists have often seemed to be working to the same end: killing inner city jobs. The councillors first bulldozed everything in sight, including cheap business premises; later their antagonists to business enterprise showed itself in planning restrictions and high property rates.

New plants opened not in the cities but on the fringes, out by the motorway box or in the new towns, planned and paid for when decentralization was all the rage. New firms did not replace those that closed.

According to a survey by Department of the Environment officials, "Many factors have contributed to the low level of creation of new firms

in the inner areas. Government planning policies have clearly played their part, but many firms in the newer, more mobile industries find that the depressing and deteriorating environment, high land values, scarcity of large sites, lack of appropriately skilled local labour, and the problems of access, congestion, vandalism and crime are deterrents."

That was written before Toxteth. Liverpool is notorious for the low level of qualifications among its school-leavers and other cities share the problem. For the English inner city areas unskilled workers among all males of working age were 175 per cent of the proportion for the country as a whole in the mid-1960s.

By the end of the 1970s the figure had risen to 200 per cent. The inner city formula is waste land and some estimates define 12 per cent of city land area as derelict or vacant — plus waste people.

### Unemployment

Percentage April 1979 % December 1981

	1979	1981	%
Coventry	334,180	310,216	- 7.2
Manchester	534,511	437,663	-18.1
Swansea	185,981	183,484	-1.3
Glasgow	982,317	763,162	-22
Great Britain average			5.4 12.0

Source: Department of Employment

## Bush fire alert in Tasmania

Hobart, Feb 16. — Many Chinese employees are reluctant to be singled out as "model workers" for fear of being ridiculed and ostracized by their workmates, the Communist Party's People's Daily reported today.

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## Theatre Poetic debate Hours of Life

### King's Head

Before the next version of *La Ronde* arrives on the scene, here is a welcome glimpse of a very different aspect of Artur Schnitzler's *Hours of Life*, the first play of a 1902 cycle on attitudes to life and death, consists of a debate between the son and lover of a dead woman. The son is a poet, the lover a retired official; and, as practically we learn about the woman is that she committed suicide for the sake of her son's work, the general impression is of a circular argument on the unprofitable theme of art versus life.

However, all the detail in Peter Tegel's translation contradicts that impression. First, there is the garden setting—a neutral zone, midway between creativity and office routine. Then there is the fact that Anton, the official, couples his hostility towards art with a strong sense of his own insignificance. Also, as an old man in a respectable job, he first seems to represent conventional morality; whereas it is he who has had the clandestine relationship and the young poet who shoulders the weight of family responsibility.

The lovers met in the garden. The poet looked after his mother at home. Would old Anton feel so bitter about losing her if it meant not simply "an hour of life" with her in the garden, but listening to her coughing through the wall for night after night?

Schnitzler drops in such questions unobtrusively and stealthily introduces his characters' biographies so as to set up preconceptions and then demolish them. The central duel is forecast in an opening scene with the old gardener (Leslie Glazier) describing his disagreements with an arrogant newcomer to the trade. In Vladimir Mirodan's midday production, Joseph O'Connor sits absent-mindedly through this rimearole, looking every inch a bitterly bereaved husband—a feeling initially confirmed by the arrival of Alan Coveney, in full poetic uniform, to describe his attempts to cure his grief by visiting the best art galleries in Europe. The facts of the relationship then start coming out; and we find the aggressive Anton asking the boy for forgiveness, and the inoffensive boy finally accusing him of betrayal for disclosing the suicide note.

There is not much depth in Mr Coveney's performance; but, behind all Mr O'Connor's denunciations of the unfeeling, blood-sucking artistic community, there is a complex charge of guilt, affection and respect for the artist.

**Irving Wardle**

### Pop music

#### Shalamar

##### The Venue

Initially vilified by those who could hear no further than the Bee Gees score for *Saturday Night Fever*, disco music has turned out to be the most serious and profound evolution in popular music since the invention of rock and roll. Even the intellectuals have capitulated: indeed, some of the more perceptive among them were the first to recognize the potential of this new musical Esperanto.

Perhaps, in the end, disco will earn its place in musical studies more through the achievements of those who adapted it—August Darnell and Stony Browder, Nile Rodgers and Bernard Edwards, David Byrne and Brian Eno, Bjorn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson, than via the hard core of singers, musicians and producers who delivered the music to its original audience on the dance floor. It is difficult, for example, to imagine pattern embracing the collected work of the artists who appear on the Solar label, which, by virtue of its consistent ability to manufacture best-sellers, constitutes a mini-Motown for the Eighties.

Shalamar, three singers from a seven-piece band, are Solar's most successful outfit. Their 90-minute set on Monday night was an efficient production set firmly in the mode established by various Motown artists in the late 1960s, combining the funk of Sly Stone, the flamboyance of Jimi Hendrix and the gushing insincerity of Las Vegas.

Of the trio, Howard Hewett has a serviceable tenor, with a graceful transition to the falsetto register, and Jody Watley's husky soprano is reminiscent of the young Diana Ross. Despite the energy of their drummer, Tony Wesker, and their percussionist, Danny Floyd, mundane songs like "The Second Time Around", "Full of Fire" and "Make that Move" seemed interminable. Only an unannounced medium-tempo ballad stood out, allowing Hewett to vamp imaginatively over well-arranged background harmonies; amazingly, they chose not to perform "Take that to the Bank", their best known song.

**Richard Williams**

## Cinema: Berlin Festival A vogue for the avenging sword

Now in its thirty-second edition, the Berlin International Film Festival is today a triumph of the computer. It runs with an awe-inspiring efficiency unparalleled at any other festival. Films show up, and screen on schedule. Accreditations, holds, tickets and all the other daily anxieties of festival-going are ordered without any of the queuing and bickering that seem indispensable elsewhere.

The element of human fallibility is overcome, indeed, in every respect but one: computers have no control over the availability and selection of films. The first days of Berlin have certainly brought no winners. The best picture so far, *Bernard Tavernier's Coup de Torchon*, is not in competition. Based on Jim Thompson's novel *Pop 1280*, it is set in a rotting colonial outpost in French West Africa just before the Second World War. Philippe Noiret plays the ignorant, incompetent and cowardly police chief who suddenly awakens to the cleansing possibilities of murder. The film is richly atmospheric, evoking the arid land and killing boredom, and the superficial manner of old-style French character comedy (*Tavernier's co-writer was Jean Aurenche*) gives piquancy to the underlying brutality of the film's message.

The theme of the swift avenging sword is currently rather in vogue. It appears again in the Swedish entry, *The Simple-minded Murder*, in



"The Shimoyana Case": detailed re-creation of post-war turmoil

written and directed by Hans Alfredson, who also plays the wicked landlord who drives the good, simple-minded hero to his act of vengeance. It is an amiable film, with an old familiar Scandinavian blend of social deprivation and religious mysticism. The slight problem is to know how seriously Alfredson intends us to take the gorgeously appalled avenging angels (they include

Björn Andrésen, the boy from *Death in Venice*) who stride through the town at the heels of the singleton. The influence of Costa Gavras, Francesco Rosi and their "investigative" cinema continues strong. In this genre there is little to be said in favour of Henri Verneuil's *Mille Milliards de Dollars*, a dull film about a journalist investigating the frauds of multi-national corporations.

A Japanese film, Ken Kumai's *The Shimoyana Case* (or "Wilful Murder", or "Dirty Tricks"; the title seems undecided), is a more interesting example of the style, on account of the detail it brings to its recreation of an event of the post-war turmoil. In 1949 the head of the state railways is found dead on the tracks, days after a massive lay-off of his workers. Kumai's hero is a

journalist (as usual) pursuing the case for more than a decade in order to disprove the official verdict, and show the death as a murder instigated by the American-backed political right to discredit the far left. It is rough, contentious and a great deal more absorbing than many a more elegant film.

**David Robinson**

## Opera Real people in vibrant vision

### Cosi fan tutte

#### Metropolitan Opera, New York

In 1951 the Metropolitan Opera reintroduced its audiences to *Cosi fan tutte* via the celebrated English-language Alfred Lunt production. Thirty years later, it has replaced that version with a new one cunningly set and adeptly staged, so that Mozart's endless melodies and the opera's delicate balance between life and artifice are enhanced and enshrined.

The Met's very size may militate against that intimacy which *Cosi* should ideally have, but its acoustics are such that soft expressive singing, when adequately projected, is always very audible but dominating. And this production blessedly gave the audience yards of such gracefully rich subtlety, from the singers and from the orchestra, compacted and shaped by James Levine. He conducted a fluid, lither reading still a bit rough at the edges, which needs to settle into the kind of naturally-produced tempo relationships over the long span that are the hallmark of the best Mozart conducting. Yet Levine's constant attention to dynamics and pacing invigorated everything on stage, and concentrated some of his strongest work in the house this season.

The cast were well chosen, both as to voices and physical types, and produced a Mozartian ensemble vocalism of unified beauty of tone. Kiri Te Kanawa's magisterial Fiordiligi, at once so vocally commanding yet so softly vulnerable — rightly brought down the house. If she treats her lower voice, here clinically examined by Mozart's writing, with a gayer restraint, she displays a power and a creaminess in the upper register that more than compensates. One might wish for a shade more elan and daring to go with her intelligence, and a bit more firmness at the end of phrases, but that is nit-picking: she graces, once again, the house as Alfonso.

Maria Ewing as Dorabella provided the perfect contrast. Here is an outstanding natural comedienne, both vocally and histrionically, who can colour her chest register so that each word emerges with a quizzical edge. Yet comedy never overwhelms her: her "Smanni implacabilis" balanced exaggeration with tenderness, her second-act duet with Guglielmo pulsed with awakened emotions, and her handling of recitatives was ever masterly. She has emerged as a major artist.

The men were similarly contrasted. David Rendall's flexible light tenor glided almost effortlessly over the notes, and he handled the tessitura of "Ah lo veggo" with the ease of a butterfly among violets. James Morris's dark bass-baritone is the current preference for the role of Guglielmo (rather than a light

lyric), but the wonder of his large, somewhat rough voice — used for such roles as Claggart in *Billy Budd* or Boris Godunov — is that, although it can cannon out, it can also be reined in for superior Mozart ensemble singing, while its masculine power counts for a great deal in the second act.

Kathleen Battle's bright and pointed soprano made an exemplary Despina, although the inbuilt clichés of that role, combined with the fact that she is black, gave her servant the aura of those sassy Negro maids of 1930s comedies. Donald Gramma was his usual urbane and imperturbable self as Alfonso.

As with most *Cosi* productions, this one reduced the size of the stage by means of a false proscenium with its own curtain, and a naked playing area. Yet the designer Hayden Griffin's use of movable screens, enclosing and revealing, and a battery of servants to keep the flow of the opera continuous, was entirely appropriate, as was the contrast between the brightly-painted foliage and background Vesuvius (seen smoking in the second act) of the outdoors (which in its *trompe-l'oeil* effect of doors opening through trees recalled the paintings of Magritte) and the soft patterning of the interiors. This was inventive setting in unobtrusive guise, and solved many of the problems this opera raises.

Colin Graham's staging was basically realistic, in keeping with today's view of *Così*, and never

veered into slapstick or buffoonery. The men as Albanians were barely disguised — the question as to why the ladies never recognized them was not addressed — while, in the final scene, the two men never re-donned their costumes for the final revelation.

Graham carried the idea of real people in real emotional situations to its logical conclusion by having the lovers, finally, pair off as they did in the second act, and not go back to their original paramours. This is more a trendy than a satisfactory solution, but understandable given the orientation of the production. If Graham used his servants fussy, having them peer around corners of the screens at odd intervals, his staging had the real merit of the negative virtues: nothing in excess, and humanity glowing through the disguises and the plot constructs as Mozart glows through the words and story of *Da Ponte*.

One arresting vocal moment (which is in the score) typified the evening, the *subito piano* in Fiordiligi's "Come scoglio" at the word "tempesta" when she looks at, and almost recognizes, Guglielmo. That moment encapsulated the ambiguities of this supreme score of mask and face, of comedy and wisdom, which was brought to such vibrant musical life on the stage of the Met.

**Patrick J. Smith**



The magisterial Kiri Te Kanawa (left) with Kathleen Battle

## Interview: Edward Cowie

## Explosion of musical ideas

The New Opera Company, which grew out of the Cambridge University Opera Group, tonight at Sadler's Wells celebrates 25 years of more than 40 productions of contemporary opera, from Arthur Benjamin's *Tale of Two Cities* to Szymanowski's *King Roger* and, most recently, *The Italian Straw Hat* at the Coliseum.

Vaughn Williams, whose *Sir John in Love* the group first performed at Cambridge, was instrumental in the early history of the company, energetically encouraging its promotion of new English operas. Now Edward Cowie is benefiting from the company's continuing existence. Originally written for and performed at the State Opera in Kassel in 1979, his "fantasy opera" *Commedia* was spotted by Leon Lovett, the New Opera Company's music director, and its British premiere this evening will be particularly one of the first of which was *Commedia*.

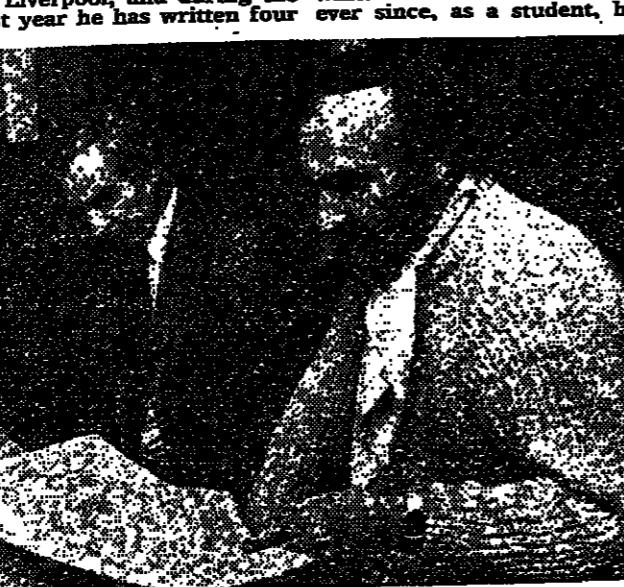
It comes at a fruitful time in his composing life: a fortnight ago, his Concerto for Orchestra was premiered in Liverpool, and during the which has fascinated Cowie ever since, as a student, he

prepared pieces for a new madrigals, a choral symphony for the Leeds Festival and a new work for chamber orchestra. *Commedia*, written between 1974 and 1978, is seen by Cowie as a kind of catalyst.

"I went through a long period of very self-conscious composition, of thinking about my status in the avant-garde and about contemporary musical thought. And I came to realize that there were different kinds of teacher — Fricker and Lutoslawski who worked on my emotional make-up and Alexander Goehr who worked more systematically on serialism — I went through 10 years of writing either ultra-serial music or very rampantly romantic music, and I eventually found a way to start listening to what I wanted to write and become more passive, not letting my thinking dominate my fantasy. The moment that happened there was a great explosion of musical ideas, one of the first of which was *Commedia*".

Cowie's work as a painter surrounds him with a vocabulary which, at times, can obfuscate as much as illuminate his verbal articulation of purely musical ideas — which, in the end, as he admits, have to speak for themselves. But it does mean he knows just what he wants from his designer and director. He chose Aldous Evelyn as designer after working with him on a *commedia dell'arte* in 1969. "I watched him dream up Aztec and Inca imagery long before he'd actually been to Peru, and I was convinced that was the sort of primal, naturally chromatic backdrop I wanted."

David Freeman, whose experimental and improvisatory work with Opera Factory has been so much in evidence over the last six months, was a natural choice for director. "Michael Gallo [who directed in Kassel] had a special vision of the work's timelessness. But what I look forward to in David is his exploration of the sensual, erotic complexities of the work. And he will, I think, try to articulate some of the work's classicism — I've thought a lot about Mozart and *The Magic Flute* in this work — as well as its inherent modernism."



Cowie (right) at work in the recording studio

## Bournemouth SO/ Segal

### Festival Hall

Even in the pro-Bruckner musical climate of today, his fifth symphony is something of a Cinderella, and gratitude is due to Uri Segal and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra for bringing a carefully prepared interpretation up to London's South Bank on Monday. They preceded it with Mussorgsky's hair-raising *Songs and Dances of Death*, sung by Benjamin Luxon in Shostakovich's transcription for voice and orchestra.

Audiences, maliciously

brainwashed into fear of counterpoint and fugue as cerebral academic exercises, shy away from Bruckner 5, because every commentator draws attention to its exploits in those accomplishments.

They are not dry, but dramatic, just as the fugues of Bach and Beethoven and Brahms are dramatic. When Bruckner exercises his mastery in the finale of No 5, the most academic listener feels tension rise alarmingly, and the hairs on the nape of the neck bristle.

Bruckner 5 is no remote symphonic exercise, but a living music drama: yet it is not like some other Bruckner symphonies, so much about jolly peasants, or Austrian scenery, as about

music itself, the voice of God apprehended by Bruckner, if you like, the music of the spheres.

Wagner, Bruckner's idol, wanted audiences to abandon themselves to his music. You can do worse than that, listening to a Bruckner symphony, though No 5 expects some degree of audience participation, active pursuit by ear of the musical argument in which the emotional content, uplifting and enthralling, is carried out.

Bruckner was a pure Viennese classic at heart, the heir of Haydn and Schubert. For that he is nowadays loved and for his romantic par-Wagnerian emotionalism. Segal honourably opted for its underplayed power, care for instrumental colour, and due proportion, and the clear articulation of musical sentences. Luxon sang the Mussorgsky songs scrupulously, without exaggeration or any mimicity of say, Chaliapin, using his own flexible baritone voice to vivify words and music.

**William Mann**

## Concerts

## Bruckner's noble sense of proportion

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### Youri Egorov

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Youri Egorov's change of programme at a few days' notice was perhaps typical of this young Russian pianist's artistic perfectionism and fastidiousness, a determination to play the right music at the right time, which can even result in a recital being cancelled if he feels unready for it.

From the first of his 12 Chopin Etudes, its progress

massively powerful yet strikingly energetic, it was clear that both he and we were indeed, in the right place at the right time. His reading of the second and fifth Etudes in particular, a perfectly and excitingly suspended balance of power between hands gave the music fresh impetus, released as a scampering

Four voices from the West: Willy Brandt, West German Chancellor, 1969-74, continues the debate

# Stop this defeatist talk about Nato

**Bonn** Doubts about Nato's future and cohesion have become quite a lasting issue. With infallible regularity it is predicted that the alliance will collapse, leaving Europe defenceless in the face of all-powerful communism.

In the past few months, accusations to this effect have been directed mainly at West Germany. It is suspected of renouncing basic western convictions and clandestinely seeking an accommodation with the Soviet Union, lured by the appeal of German reunification.

In effect, the concerns about the future of the alliance constitute a kind of phantom battle. Nato is militarily intact and capable of political action. There can be no question of an actual crisis comparable to that caused by De Gaulle when he decided on withdrawal from the alliance's military integration.

In West Germany the need for Nato is almost undisputed. Unlike the situation in several other member countries, there is virtually no significant political force here which calls Nato into question. "The Atlantic Alliance with the military presence of the United States in Europe is indispensable for the Federal Republic's external security and its capacity for political action". This sentence is contained in a resolution drafted by the executive of the Social Democratic Party for the party congress in April.

What then is actually happening? It is rather the opposite of what is being claimed about so much, especially in America: West Germany and other European allies want to maintain Nato's long-standing peace policy, the preservation of a defense capability, and detente coupled with the quest for its existence.

Incidentally, the fact that members of a divided nation occasionally ponder on the prospects for overcoming that division should not surprise anyone, least of all those powers who for decades also subscribed to German reunification as a goal of European politics. But almost all of them know that this goal could move into reach only after a very long period of detente and disarmament, and only with the approval of the four erstwhile victorious powers and the nations of Europe.

Finally, the reaction of Poland: in Germany, coinciding with the Polish trade unionists is very deep. Deeper than some people in other countries believe. We have received by far the most of the Poles who left their country after the downfall of Mr Gierek. Since December 13 people in this country have sent more than two million relief parcels to Poland. But the Government, the parties constituting it and the vast majority of Germans do not think much of talk and threats, nor of a kind of loud moralizing.



TROUBLED ALLIES 2

Government's stance on Poland.

As far as unilateral disarmament is concerned, only a tiny minority of people in this country, and certainly no political forces of any importance, consider it a feasible idea. But many people are worried about peace and are pressing for disarmament. With a few insignificant exceptions, these people are neither communist puppets nor pro-Soviet in their outlook. Rather, they are essentially in agreement with the Social Democratic Party and the trade unions, indeed with the vast majority of the people, that the dangerous folly of the continuing arms race must be stopped.

The superpowers must negotiate a mutually acceptable form of equilibrium attained by disarmament.

As for neutrality, I do not know of anyone in West Germany with any political influence who advocates a separate course for Germany outside the alliance. And as for the alleged new nationalism, it simply does not exist. Even a few intellectuals who are in favour of dissolving the power blocks as a first step want to see peace safeguarded and not a powerful non-aligned Germany.

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If a path towards greater freedom and democracy still exists in Poland, we must not obstruct it by creating a cold war atmosphere. Detente is always based on reciprocity: as long as the other side is interested in detente it will be willing to pay a price to preserve it. Thus what we have here is not a pro-Soviet attitude but a policy marked by a common interest in preserving peace also for Poland's benefit.

The future of the Western Alliance is not a matter of doubt; it is not being questioned by the Germans. What is involved is not the

existence of Nato but the principles of its policy.

This policy combines the concepts of military equilibrium, political detente and balanced disarmament. In Germany the active pursuit of these goals is called peace

and might trigger off a corresponding reaction.

On the other hand, arms technology has progressed to a point where before long there will be weapons — some people feel they already exist — which are so "deadly" and accurate that there might be a tendency to use them for a regionally limited conflict.

The temptation to aspire to supremacy — a truly dangerous temptation — has thus been brought closer again.

This is a fatal and possibly a suicidal course. When asking whether peace policy can be continued, much more than detente is at stake. We now need effective arms limitation and genuine disarmament more urgently than ever before.

It is hoped that people will not look in vain to the talks in Geneva.

I should like to finish with a quotation:

"What kind of peace do we seek? Not a Pax Americana enforced on the world by American weapons of war. Not the peace of the grave or the security of the slave. I am talking about genuine peace, the kind of peace that makes life on earth worth living, the kind that enables men and nations to grow and to hope and to build a better life for their children. Not merely peace for Americans but for all men and women — I speak of peace because of the overriding security interests.

In all these respects detente policy is also directly peace policy. It not only tries to reduce conflicts by reconciling different interests and hence to prevent the causes of war; it also takes account of the aforementioned military form of interdependence: it knows that security, the basic goal of military defence, can no longer be achieved through supremacy, but only through cooperation.

Today the elements of peace policy — deterrence and detente — are in jeopardy. In global confrontation there is inevitably the tendency to bypass the opponent's military potential and strike at his substance, for instance economically by a strategy of "arming oneself to death". But anyone who speculates on his opponent collapsing from within is trying with the idea of a victory which would be similar to a military victory

A few days before President Reagan revealed his budget proposals, a coalition of 12 groups called the Action Committee for Higher Education, already knowing what the proposals would mean for their members, launched a lobbying campaign as intense as that conducted by any other industry. And why not? Higher education in America is an industry that manages to spend almost \$60,000 a year.

The day after its press conference, the Washington Post carried a half-page news story from Cambridge — in England, that is, not Massachusetts — which bore the menacing headline, "Thatcher's budget axe threatening deep cutbacks at universities". It reported that there were beginning here. Who says that the special relationship is not flourishing when the hands of so many nervous dons are joined across the seas?

The cuts in financial aid to students which Mr Reagan proposed are certainly deep. Whether one considers them also to be savage depends on what one thinks of the higher education system in America as it has developed in the last 20 years. One of its undeniable benefits is that many teachers who ought not to be teaching are able to live comfortably off the aid given to many students who do not deserve to be taught.

The General Accounting Office (GAO) last year presented to Congress a report on the actual working of the student aid programmes. Its examples included a student at State Community College in East St Louis, Illinois, who received \$8,400 in seven years while completing only 35 of 215 required credit hours. She took the same speech course eight times and the same sociology course five times. She passed in neither of them.

A student at Boise State University in Idaho who received more than \$4,200 in federal aid was granted a degree in social science after taking 13 physical education courses. These included "coed bowling", "coed billiards", and even "coed jogging". He did best in two independent study courses on "sexuality of the male athlete" and "behaviour of the Christian and non-Christian child". His final marks were 4 Fs and 11 Ds. The state university gave him a degree.

Other universities and colleges are adopting much the same policies, and on the whole one finds it difficult to believe that harm will result. The simple fact is that the admissions policies of the past two decades have produced a system of higher education in which increasingly the ill-educated have been educating the ineducable, at the cost not only of the taxpayer but of those who can and wish to be educated.

The trustees of Yale University had the intelligence in 1978 to choose from its own faculty as its new president a professor of English and a scholar of medieval and Renaissance literature, M.A. Bierbrier. Giannetti has surprised many by his skills as an administrator and even as a fund raiser. But he has also become the most articulate spokesman of the need to restore American universities to the pursuit of their traditional functions.

There is not one state university in America today that has anything like the reputation of several in the early years of this century or even the University of California at Berkeley before it was wrecked in the rampages of the 1960s. When the admissions were comparatively few, even to public universities, their "curiously hierarchical nature" was respected, even by the democracy. It no longer is. Not by the democracy, it is now.

It can only be hoped that the cutting of federal aid will start some rethinking out in the states. Once they start reducing admissions, then reform will really begin.

But then came the 1960s.

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Tomorrow: Maurice Couve de Murville

Henry Fairlie

# Too many duds on the campus

The offspring of the postwar baby boom rushed on the universities and colleges and overwhelmed them.

At the same time the programmes of the great society were introduced: the children of the needy and minorities were to be helped to go to college. Whereas in the 16 years before 1956 the number of students in Illinois had risen by only 50,000, it rose in the succeeding 16 years by only a little less than another 350,000. It is such astounding figures reflected in other states across the country, that raise questions about student aid.

One last figure gives some idea of the mushrooming that occurred during the 1970s. When the Pell grants for needy students were introduced in 1973-74 — they are so called after Senator George S. McGovern — \$122m was distributed to some 185,000 students. In the fiscal year which ends in April this year no fewer than 2,800,000 students will receive \$2,300m in this form of aid alone. No wonder Mr Reagan wonders.

The admission of students who will probably not graduate and not even finish their courses, says the GAO, is what "threatens to undermine the integrity of the financial aid programme". Of course ways ought to and can be found — even within the present budget — to assist needy students who earn their admissions on merit. If appropriate standards were maintained, indeed, more might be available for them.

Wesleyan University is a private university of high reputation. It has already announced that it is ending admissions policy that did not take into consideration the ability of the student to pay. But its new admissions policy still provides for selecting first a class of students purely on their merit, and the other categories of admissions do not seem likely to exclude many students who deserve to get in.

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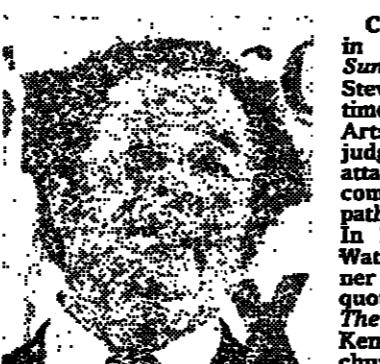
# Does the Arts Council protest too much?

Last week Mr Richard Hoggart delivered the Haldane Memorial Lecture at Birkbeck College and used the occasion to make a prolonged attack upon the media for, he claimed, its unfair treatment of the Arts Council following the cuts in December 1980.

With ironclad arrogance, he told his learned listeners that the media "had particular difficulties in dealing adequately with issues which require intellectual or imaginative perspective"; accused the arts reporters of gullibility, and attributed to me personally a Swengali-like influence over them, in the following terms: "The intensity and length of the uproar owe a good deal to the activities of one man, Michael Croft... he found quite exceptionally willing ears throughout the press and broadcasting". The fact that the "willing ears" might also have had minds of their own and taken a poor view of the Arts Council anyway did not occur to Mr Hoggart.

The truth is that for some time mine was almost the only critical voice to be heard. Most of the 41 organizations which lost subsidy kept quiet in the hope of having it restored or of obtaining Arts Council funding up grants instead.

Mr Hoggart is Warden of Goldsmiths' College. Some of



Michael Croft: critical voice

I have now made my own study of the way the media treated the cuts. Far from the bias of which Mr Hoggart complains, I find that the serious newspapers at least continually gave the Arts Council space to justify itself.

The first announcement of the cuts, predictably, caused a furore; but Christmas was coming and one assumed that the press would then lose interest. On the contrary, in the New Year the issue was quickly taken up by some provincial reporters invited to London by the Arts Council to hear news of its regional policy. According to one Northern journalist, in response to persistent questioning over the cuts, Mr Richard Pulford, Sir Roy Shaw's deputy, turned "very shifty" and sternly declared: "You are not here to discuss this!"

At the same time Mr Hoggart spoke out as Vice-chairman of the Arts Council in *The Standard* on January 9. He justified the lack of warning given to victims by asking: "Have you ever tried going up to a man, and telling him you were going to hang him?" Some of us felt bound to reply that in British justice people were not usually hanged without a fair trial.

Mr Hoggart is Warden of Goldsmiths' College. Some of

Criticism came to the boil in March when, in *The Sunday Times*, Mr St John Stevas, Arts Minister at the time of the cuts, called the Arts Council's conduct "ill-judged and uncivilized". His attack elicited further press comment, some of it sympathetic to the Arts Council. In *The Observer* Miss Janet Watts found Sir Roy's manner surprisingly "genial" and quoted him at length, while *The Sunday Times* gave Mr Kenneth Robinson a large chunk of its opinion page to reply in detail to Mr St John Stevas.

But the Arts Council was now sniffling out criticism from all quarters and one put a vision of Sir Roy poring over his press cuttings late into the night like Nixon over his tapes. The editor of *The Standard* to offend was Richard Keeble, *The Teacher*, a publication which, not surprisingly, had deplored the axing of the National youth organizations. Mr Keeble was called to Piccadilly and lectured on his full-length columns in which to restate the Arts Council case. However, this did not satisfy Sir Roy, who complained that he was published on a "miscellaneous" page and that, instead of printing his photograph, *The Standard* had used one of me as his principal critic.

Mr Hoggart is Warden of Goldsmiths' College. Some of

his students now began to boycott his lectures in protest against his support for the cuts. Thus he agreed to hold an open meeting on April 24. The meeting was limited to one hour. Sir Roy took up half of it with his now familiar litany of his barrage of criticism from theatre directors, managers and students, who accused the Council variously of ineptitude, partiality, ignorance and arrogance.

Not a word of this criticism appeared in the daily press. In fact *The Daily Telegraph* devoted most of a lengthy report to the statements by Sir Roy and Mr Hoggart. But that Sunday Miss Janet Watts in *The Observer* described the hostile mood of the audience and the fierceness of the criticism. Miss Watts was then accused by the Arts Council of misrepresentation and lack of integrity. Although her editor stood by her, she felt so threatened by the severity of the attack that she is still reluctant to discuss the matter at all.

In September the Arts Council fired its major salvo. In its annual report, unashamedly by the hands of art reporters, Mr Robinson and Sir Roy in tandem defended the cuts yet again and rebuked the media no less

than eight times for its irresponsible coverage of them.

I believe that the Arts Council is an essential institution but it is surely scarcely credible that men who have spent their working lives in the field of communications should make such a botch-up of their public relations. Rereading their utterances, I suspect that they neither understand nor respect the functions of the press. They think it should be their handmaiden, not their critic; should print their hand-outs but not question their policy. Though outwardly democratic, when exposed to criticism they show totalitarian responses. They resent the power of the press and the fact that, as the Arts Council is in practice answerable to no one but itself, the press provides the only court in which it can be called to account. It is a dismal irony that an organization which, above all else, should stand for freedom of expression, should get so incensed when the press chooses to exercise that freedom by putting the Arts Council itself in the dock.

Michael Croft

The author is director of the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain.

After further delays were announced every 30 minutes until the passengers were taken to hotel bedrooms. Roused early next morning, they were then told the plane had still not left Detroit, but that they should take off at noon. In fact they would have left at 1.20 pm had a mechanical fault set them back another 90 minutes.

Though the plane was a third empty, an old and ill lady was refused a row to herself. The red wine was iced, and most of the in-flight entertainment was, said my informant, boring. What brightened it up, the editor concludes, was the screening of some documentaries showing how brilliantly British enterprise and industry performs.

We are glad to make it clear,

and we accept, that there are no grounds for suspecting that any of the Assistant Commissioners at the time of Operation Countryman, or at any other time, was guilty of corruption.

We apologize for any distress caused by this item and as a token of our regret we are paying a sum of damages to the Assistant Commissioners, for crime and uniform operations respectively, part of which they will be donating to a police charity.

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17 1982



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## McCARTHYISM

It goes back to last July. British Rail had offered its employees 7 per cent in the annual round, which was 7 per cent more than it could afford since it faced losses in the year exceeding £100 million. The railway unions had demanded 15 per cent. The dispute went to the Railway Staff National Tribunal (chairman, Lord McCarthy) which split the difference: 8 per cent backdated plus 3 per cent. The tribunal did not regard it as its business to consider how the award was to be paid for, though it gave a perfunctory nod in the direction of productivity: "given the financial and market constraints that press on the industry, adequate pay and conditions should continue to be influenced by what can be done to maintain productivity".

The board said the extra 3 per cent could be paid only if it was financed by productivity. The unions demanded payment without strings. A strike was averted in August with the help of ACAS in whose presence the parties put their names to two related but separate "understandings". One on pay said that the extra 3 per cent would be paid backdated on January 4 and a thirty-nine hour week introduced. The other on productivity included the objectives of variable rostering — "negotiation shall take place to establish variations to rostering agreements with a view to introducing some flexibility around the eight hour day... These discussions shall be concluded by October 31."

Two of the rail unions fulfilled their undertakings about productivity. The third, Aslef, did not. It refused to budge from the eight hour day, a time-honoured restriction which enforces monstrous inefficiencies in the use of train drivers' time. The board felt justified in withholding the 3 per cent from Aslef and Aslef felt justified in stopping the railways three days a week. The disruption for the public has been less than might have been expected. But it has been ruinous to the railway's finances and damaging to its commercial prospects.

The inquiry chaired by Lord McCarthy, which Aslef refused to attend, finds that the board's promise to pay the 3 per cent was unconditional, that its attempt at the time to make the payment dependent on the parallel productivity agreement being honoured was merely "a statement of intent about its own future attitude", that the 3 per cent should now be paid to Aslef and the strike called off, and that negotiations about rostering should be resumed and expedited in the established machinery of the boards from which the board should not have removed it, the final piece of that machinery being Lord McCarthy himself in his capacity of non-binding arbitrator.

Never can a party to proceedings have been so well rewarded for refusal to attend. Everything went Aslef's way. The only thing demanded of it is that it "should confirm its continued commitment to the understandings of

August 1981" and specifically to the rostering bit of the productivity understanding. But we know the cash value of Aslef's commitment to that agreement. Mr Ray Buckton spelled it out on August 21. The agreement, he said, did not commit the unions to any productivity issue: "we are committed to talking about these issues, something we have never refused to do. I say it is a victory for railwaymen".

This broken-backed inquiry has greatly weakened the position of the board. It can now seek to write into the conditions for paying up and resuming negotiations the pre-commitment by Aslef which Lord McCarthy so recklessly omitted from his proposals. That appears to be the purpose of its move last night. But it will be hard now to get a bankable assurance out of Aslef, and to stand out for one risks losing the good will of the other two rail unions and the present guarded neutrality of the trades union movement in general. Aslef's own protective self-righteousness will have hardened. The prospect of bringing a rostering agreement out of it this side of a prolonged shut-down of the railways, irreversible loss of traffic, and permanent closure of parts of the system, has been made worse by the McCarthy inquiry. But the board must persevere in the attempt and hold to its insistence on the efficient use of its manpower. In that it deserves support from the public and stiffening from the Government.

## Hope for cut in NI charge

From the Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry

Sir, In your timely leading article ("From generation to generation" (February 9)) you quote the words of Mr Peter Walker's reluctance to introduce amending legislation to the 1976 Inheritance of Tenancies Act (which gave security of tenure to two further generations after the death of the sitting tenant) lest it

be labelled "a landlord's charter". It would be difficult to think of a more complete misnomer. Indeed, the principal beneficiaries under any such Bill would not be the landlord but the would-be tenant, which is why the Tenant Farmers' Association and the Young Farmers are in favour of it.

The present situation is singularly unhealthy, for tenanted land is virtually a closed shop, confined to those fortunate enough to be able to claim the inheritance of a farm tenancy on their father's death. It is as though every tenant farm had a notice on its gate, "One way traffic only, no entry for newcomers".

The present situation is singularly unhealthy, for tenanted land is virtually a closed shop, confined to those fortunate enough to be able to claim the inheritance of a farm tenancy on their father's death. It is as though every tenant farm had a notice on its gate, "One way traffic only, no entry for newcomers".

Even the second son of the deceased tenant has little chance of finding a farm to rent if his elder brother has successfully claimed the tenancy on his father's death. Very few, if any, landowners are prepared to lock up a farm tenancy which might last for 100 years, as the drop of one million acres of tenanted land (quoted in your editorial) since 1976 shows.

Unless an attempt is made to remove this log jam very soon all kinds of alternative schemes to income tax cuts, but the case for direct assistance to industry is much more pressing and the timing of such cuts would make much better sense next year.

Sir William and Mr Grylls should be aware that the real problem for business just now is low liquidity and low profitability.

The CBI agrees that many people in Britain are concerned about the level of personal taxation but we would submit they are even more concerned about employment prospects.

It should also be noted that in 1981 real disposable income for persons stood 13 per cent higher than it did four years ago whilst post-tax profitability for companies had fallen 67 per cent in the same period.

Cutting income tax now could start a consumer-led boom sucking in imports with which a weakened business sector would be hard pressed to compete.

The beauty of cutting NIS is that it would immediately help businesses to compete by cutting costs, which CBI members tell us is the paramount obstacle to gaining further overseas business.

Yours sincerely,  
TERENCE BECKETT, Director-General, Confederation of British Industry, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, WC1. February 15.

## ARMS TO ARMS, ASHES TO ASHES

The proposed sale of American F-16 jet fighters and Hawk mobile anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan seems likely to become the object of another major political battle in the United States similar to the one over the Awacs sale to Saudi Arabia last year. Once again the battle lines will be drawn between the administration, the arms manufacturers and the pro-Arab business lobby on one side, and a broad alliance of Senators and Congressmen, some hawkish, some doveish, encouraged and orchestrated by the Israeli embassy and the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee on the other. Mr Weinberger and the Pentagon will again be seen as the main proponents of the deal, while Mr Haig, who shows greater sensitivity to the dangers of a confrontation with Israel and its American allies, may again run the risk of appearing only a tepid supporter of the President in a key foreign policy battle — for certainly the President will need once again to throw his personal authority into the scale if the deal is to go through.

Mr Reagan might well win this battle as he won the last, but his domestic political position is no longer as strong as it was last year and he might, on reflection, decide that the diversion of energies from the battle to get his budget accepted and to preserve Republican positions in the mid-term Congressional elections was more than he could afford. He might also ask himself whether, if he is going to take on the pro-Israel lobby in a pitched battle — never a decision to be taken lightly by any American leader — this is the

right issue on which to do it. That was already very doubtful in the Awacs case, but at least there was a tenable argument that Saudi Arabia needed Awacs to protect her oilfields against a surprise attack from Iran, and that it was healthier for this protection to be assured by Saudi Arabia's own armed forces, suitably equipped,

than by American forces based on Saudi soil. In Jordan's case there can be no serious doubt against whom an air defence system is needed. A major Syrian attack on Jordan is hardly likely, for all the present tension between the two countries. President Assad has more than enough on his plate without that. Nor does it seem likely that Mr Weinberger intends the weapons to be passed to Iraq for use against Iran, as Iran's President Ali Khamenei has charged. If that were the intention, Congress would certainly be right to oppose the deal, for only on the most cynical and short-sighted view could it be considered America's interest to fuel the flames of that futile and dangerous conflict.

No, the country by which Jordan feels directly threatened, and against which it feels especially vulnerable in the air, is of course Israel. The weapons by which it feels threatened are American weapons, acquired by Israel as military aid (either through outright grants or through very soft credit terms) from the U.S. government. And the reason why America feels impelled to offer such weapons to Jordan was also the underlying reason for the Awacs deal: the need to retain the friendship of moderate

rather attempts to supply, because it fails). As medical technique improves, it will be easier to supply services, decentralised and localized, to suit individual requirements, circumstances and preferences. As employees become more valuable in industry, the actions of the NHS hospital — "don't call me, I'll call you" — will be increasingly rejected if work is not to be disrupted by the absence of a key man in a working group, team, task or plant.

The central political decision — whether to repress private medicine in the effort to sustain the NHS, or to welcome private medicine as a standard by which to judge the NHS, a competitor to stimulate it, and a source of finance to supplement it — must be taken sooner rather than later. The longer it is evaded the more disturbing it will eventually be, since market forces do not stand still.

Yours faithfully,  
ARTHUR SELDON,  
The Thatched Cottage,  
Goddess Green,  
Sevenoaks,  
Kent.  
February 10.

is a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) system having a maximum range of about 6,000 miles, in favour of an unspecified number of Tomahawk cruise missiles with a range of barely 2,000 miles, to be carried in two-seater aircraft of the Navy and fired from surface ships?

There are at least three strong reasons against such a proposal. First, ballistic missiles are inherently more difficult to counter than cruise missiles, to a degree that cannot be compensated for, at a similar cost, by a greater number of cruise missiles.

Secondly, the unique stabilising character of the SLBM system derives from the concealment and mobility of the submarine in the vastness of the oceans. The role, primarily anti-submarine, of the general-purpose submarine, whether nuclear-powered or diesel-electric, requires it to accept risk of detection in the course of its operations, which would be incompatible with the strategic deterrent, retaliatory role.

Thirdly, the notion that the strategic nuclear deterrent arm might credibly be mounted in surface ships, whose every movement may readily be observed, seems to be contrary to common sense.

Yours faithfully,  
IAN McGEORCH,  
Southern Hedingham,  
Halstead,  
Essex.  
February 15.

## Trident considerations

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch

Sir, You report Mr Keith Speed, MP (February 13), as urging Mr Not to abandon Trident II, which

is more than the activities of men and women in the ordinary daily business of Wordsworth's "getting and spending", will find ways round the power of the state. As incomes rise the ordinary man and woman will want better medicine than the state can supply equally (or

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A log jam in land tenancies

From Sir Charles Mott-Radcliffe

Sir, In your timely leading article ("From generation to generation" (February 9)) you quote the words of Mr Peter Walker's reluctance to introduce amending legislation to the 1976 Inheritance of Tenancies Act (which gave security of tenure to two further generations after the death of the sitting tenant) lest it

be labelled "a landlord's charter". It would be difficult to think of a more complete misnomer. Indeed, the principal beneficiaries under any such Bill would not be the landlord but the would-be tenant, which is why the Tenant Farmers' Association and the Young Farmers are in favour of it.

This can only be achieved by a taxation policy which encourages responsible landowners to let land as smaller family farms, and legislation which discourages the faceless absentee purchasers of land, such as financial institutions, from destroying the ecological and social fabric of rural England for the purely monetary gain of unseen, uncaring investors.

The rent of a farm should be determined by the earning capacity of that farm under good husbandry, not by someone in the City deciding on what return he requires from his (fragile) investment; when the tenant goes bankrupt there are always more young hopefuls, at even higher rents, ready to try to extract even more from the soil.

Institutional ownership should be condemned to letting in small family units with security of tenure and fair rents.

On the subject of succession, it is you who wish that a farmer's son can be evicted from his home often after half working life?

Even under the "indefinite and undivided security" of the 1976 Act, 50 per cent of contested cases are won by the landlord.

I would suggest that a change which would help all round would be the ending of a tenancy when the tenant reaches 65, rather than on his death, with succession for a competent, qualified heir, and eviction only for very good reasons indeed.

Which, socially and environmentally, is best for our countryside: "agribusiness", itinerant short-term tenants, or the traditional, but fast-disappearing family farms with security and the feeling of family "belonging to" their parish and district?

The environmentalists who are worried about the changes in the English landscape have failed to realize that they are caused by the decline of that "endangered species", the British family farm.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES MOTT-RADCLIFFE,  
Barnham Hall,  
Matslase,  
Norwich.  
February 11.

The CBI would like to see income tax cuts, but the case for direct assistance to industry is much more pressing and the timing of such cuts would make much better sense next year.

Sir William and Mr Grylls should be aware that the real problem for business just now is low liquidity and low profitability.

The CBI agrees that many people in Britain are concerned about the level of personal taxation but we would submit they are even more concerned about employment prospects.

It should also be noted that in 1981 real disposable income for persons stood 13 per cent higher than it did four years ago whilst post-tax profitability for companies had fallen 67 per cent in the same period.

Cutting income tax now could start a consumer-led boom sucking in imports with which a weakened business sector would be hard pressed to compete.

The number of farms let to tenants has been in decline for 30 years due to the profitability of post-war farming and the penal taxation of landlords' capital and rental income.

Yours faithfully,

AIDAN HARRISON,  
Morrells,

Morpeth,

Northumberland.

February 9.

Yours faithfully,

JOE GORMLEY,  
National Union of Mineworkers,  
222 Euston Road, NW1.

February 15.

The inquiry had evidence from the CRGB that the coal would be needed by their local power stations to replace the capacity which is inevitably going to be lost through the exhaustion of reserves at pits in Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire.

If this country is going to recover permanently from the current recession caused by the huge rise in oil prices since 1974, we must surely develop the assets that nature has given us. And there is no better example of that wealth than the new Leicestershire coalfield.

Yours faithfully,

F. R. DOLLING,  
Barclays Bank Limited,

54 Lombard Street, EC3.

February 11.

### Social sciences cuts

From Dr E. A. Shinebourne and Mr J. C. R. Lincoln

Sir, We have been concerned to read reports of the Government's plans for further cut-backs in social science research. Funded by the Social Science Research Council, a team of sociologists from Goldsmiths' College, London, have been investigating parents' responses to the diagnosis of congenital heart disease in their child and to the subsequent referral to a children's heart unit. The study's results have important and practical lessons for the nursing and medical teams looking after the children as well as for the families.

Who can investigate with the necessary academic rigour the realities of the situation for the parents? In our view this type of sociological study is essential if we are to know the impact of high technology medicine upon our patients and their families.

To eliminate this type of social science research and the grant-giving body best able to judge its quality would be a profoundly mistaken act of Governmental policy.

Yours faithfully,

ELLIOT A. SHINEBOURNE,

C. LINCOLN,

Department of Paediatric

Cardiology and Surgery,

Brompton Hospital,

Fulham Road, SW3.

The research has revealed the moral implications for parents of producing a less than perfect child, even though objectively the parents are not "to blame" for their child's anomaly. It has also shown that parents' communication difficulties arise particularly in early stages of treatment and this has led to the establishment at this hospital of an additional "parents" clinic prior to their child's admission.

Who can investigate with the necessary academic rigour the realities of the situation for the parents? In our view this type of sociological study is essential if we are to know the impact of high technology medicine upon our patients and their families.

To eliminate this type of social science research and the grant-giving body best able to judge its quality would be a profoundly mistaken act of Governmental policy.

Yours faithfully,

GRATIAN ENDICOTT,

14, Elmwood Court,

Palmerston Road,

Liverpool.

February 11.

nature to find its centre of gravity in the broad centre through which we are now urging the electorate to drive a swathe of economic sense and sensibility.

Anyone for whom this will and energy is too strong must inevitably opt out, for we cannot afford to be held back by narrow thinking or mean designs the aim is too high, the time too short.

It is therefore comforting to note that John Horam today, in your columns, (February 9), has applied a corrective to the rather silly debate that has been going on for a few days — with may it be said, the gratuitous intervention of some persons whose concern is not the achievement of the purpose we have set. I trust we may now get on with our task without involving ourselves in such quirky discussions — and a plague on those who will try to stir up the community as a whole.

I would suggest that Mr Straw should look at the banks' needs for profits and the need to retain a high level of those profits in the business in order to fulfil their vital role rather than focus their attention on a meaningless figure of pre-tax, pre-minorities, pre-windfall profits tax profits suggested by the leading brokers.

It is perhaps paradoxical that the world of oil, gas, iron and steel described as the most profitable in the world, trade at about 60 per cent of their worth in real terms 15 years ago.



President Vigdís Finnbogadóttir begins an official visit to Britain today. This report looks at a land associated in Britain with cod wars, chess contests and, wrongly, with a polar climate. Iceland, though deeply conscious of its past, has changed faster in the last 40 years than almost any other nation in Europe

## Iceland

### A big little country

A not unsympathetic observer remarked that the trouble with Iceland was that this nation of 230,000, living on a virtually uninhabitable island in the north Atlantic and until recently overwhelmingly dependent on catching fish, behaved as if the population was 20 million.

Iceland has all the features of a much larger state: a diplomatic service, a national airline (itself a merger between two companies), a university teaching such expensive subjects as medicine and engineering, and a television service covering the whole country. There is a National Theatre, a symphony orchestra and even a budding film industry. An opera company was recently launched in a converted cinema, and ballet is also performed.

Even Parliament (the Althing) with a total of 60 seats, has two houses, a legacy of the 1840s, which critics today argue should be switched to a single chamber. Inside that Parliament sit four parties, none of which has managed to secure an overall majority in a general election since 1931, when Iceland was still joined in a union with Denmark. The need to forge a working coalition every time the country goes to the polls makes for a high level of political intensity.

After the latest elections in December, 1979, it took two months, an unusually long time by Icelandic standards, to cobble together a government.

What happened then has left a painful legacy. When none of the party chairmen was able to form an administration, Dr Gunnar Thoroddsen, supported by a small group from the Independence Party, went into coalition with the Progressives, whose roots lie in the important cooperative movement, and the People's Alliance.

These seemed to be strange bedfellows, and Icelanders are still arguing about what happened. The Independence Party did not formally split, but 17 of its 22 MPs are in opposition. Seating arrangements in the Althing present no problem. Members' places are drawn by lots, irrespective of party, at the start of a session.

Amazingly, both government and opposition MPs attend meetings of the Independence Party, although separate caucuses are also held. Party members who tried to force a clean break at the last annual conference were unsuccessful.

A motion to expel the Prime Minister and his supporters was withdrawn. Another, less extreme way,



Supporters greeting President Vigdís Finnbogadóttir at her home after the announcement of her election victory in 1980.

Gunnar Elms

was found to try to heal the party's pride. By a margin of more than three to one delegates exhorted the three Independence Party Ministers to resign and the two other dissidents to stop supporting them, so that the party could unite in attempting to form a new government.

The Independence Party are in effect the Conservatives, and the People's Alliance the most left-wing group. Their enemies call them Communists. This is too sweeping. The alliance is a descendant of the Communist Party of Iceland, which gained momentum during the depression years of the 1930s. The alliance includes Marxists, but is a broader church than some of its opponents allow, and it now presents itself as Socialist.

The day martial law was proclaimed in Poland, PA protesters demonstrated outside the Polish Embassy in Reykjavik. The alliance was also quick off the mark to congratulate President Mitterrand on his election. An irony is that the PA is against Iceland's membership of Nato, while the Prime Minister and all the opposition support the commitment to the defence pact of which Iceland, a state without armed forces of its own, was a founder member in 1949. The programme issued when the present government was formed in February, 1980,

omits any specific reference to Nato, and talks of emphasising the implementation of an independent foreign policy.

But there is no suggestion that this implies a neutralist course. The manifesto simply talks of strengthening Iceland's "participation in the work of the United Nations and the Nordic Council..."

Icelandic politicians have developed the habit of being able to ride out contradictory policies. This is not the first time the PA has taken part in a government not committed to closing down the Nato base at Keflavik, near Reykjavik, which is operated by the United States.

Dr Thoroddsen told *The Times*: "The People's Alliance has always been against our membership of Nato and against the Keflavik base. But this government will follow the same foreign and defence policies as before. In Parliaments the great majority are for this policy. Our main objectives in this government are fighting inflation and ensuring full employment. We have had success with both these objectives."

The Prime Minister discussed his reasons for taking a rump of his party into government not just with the politically compatible Progressives but with the previously unacceptable PA. Referring to the two months delay, he said that if Parliament was unable to form a majority government, this could have led to the President appointing a non-parliamentary administration.

This would have been "a very great dishonour to Parliament. I thought it my duty to form this government so that the country could have a Parliamentary government, but my party rejected my proposal". He said this had been a cause of great disappointment to him.

Outside, the cynical argument is heard that after a lifetime in politics, Dr Thoroddsen, an unsuccessful candidate for the Presidency in 1968, was set on becoming Prime Minister, with this probably the last chance. Nevertheless, the experience of the break with most of his colleagues for someone who has been in the Independence Party for 50 years, seems to have saddened him.

The intensity of political life is one reason for not regarding Iceland as another Lilliput. The Althing may be tiny, but it is the product of a democratic tradition almost dormant for centuries, older than that of Westminster.

Another reason for the outside world not take Iceland more seriously than its population and resources might first suggest is its strategic position.

Keflavik is a base for the American surveillance of submarine traffic in the north Atlantic. Controversy has been fuelled in the past by allegations that nuclear weapons are stationed in Iceland. Aircraft stationed there can carry such arms.

This claim was published in Washington in 1975 and subsequently repeated in Stockholm but not in Moscow. In 1977, Mr Kosygin, the late Soviet Prime Minister, said in a speech made on the occasion of a visit to Moscow by the then Icelandic Premier that there were no nuclear weapons in Iceland, and expressed his pleasure at this.

Denis Taylor

### What is an Icelander?

Magnus Magnusson discusses his countrymen

### So warm once the thaw begins

There is a wry joke current in Iceland, and much appreciated by the Icelanders themselves, about the refugee who arrives in Iceland and asks for asylum there.

"Why do you need asylum?" he is asked by the Immigration people.

"Because," he replies, "anyone who actually wants to live in Iceland must be a lunatic".

Formally, the climate is described by meteorologists as "cold-tempered oceanic", or "temperate sub-boreal", rather than "Arctic". This is because the south and west coasts are warmed by a branch of the Gulf Stream, while the prevailing south-westerly winds bring moist, warm air that tends to make the weather comparatively mild and rainy. In the north, where the coast almost reaches the Arctic circle, polar winds and sea-currents make for a much colder, drier climate.

It tends to make travel hazardous in winter. But to

my mind, the most difficult thing to cope with is not the cold, but the lack of daylight. From the middle of November to the end of January, it doesn't get light until 10 o'clock in the morning, and it gets dark again by three o'clock in the afternoon. And that can become very demoralizing.

At the other end of the extreme, there's the midnight sun at midsummer, when the sun slides along the northern horizon and there is no darkness at night. It tends to make the Icelanders somewhat drowsy and torpid in the winter, when they go into a kind of spiritual semi-hibernation, and by contrast, full of almost manic activity in the summer months, when no-one ever seems to sleep at all.

In general, the Icelanders, like all northerners tend to be reserved and undemonstrative at first meeting. But this, too, is an islander trait. As soon as they thaw out, they show themselves to be exceptionally warm and hospitable, passionately interested in the outside world.

It is contrasts and paradoxes of behaviour that one notices, just as the contrast between the ice caps and the fiery volcanoes of the interior is so marked. They are kindly people, but when it comes to politics (especially politics) they can be murderously unkind to each other. They love, almost revere, the herds of ponies that roam almost wild in the valleys, but have strict controls on their eating them as well.

They are of peasant stock but feel (and behave) like princes. They are cosmopolites rooted in provincialism. They are fiercely patriotic, and belligerently pacifist. They resolutely refuse to have any armed forces, yet they took on the British Navy in three cod wars and won. They revel in their past, the golden age of the sagas tales of Viking heroes, but are totally committed to a very fashionable present. They are ardent republicans who adore Royalty.

All this, has a great deal to do with their own history. The Icelandic nation was founded as a republic, a commonwealth without kingship. Its Parliament, the Althing, was established in 930 AD, the oldest surviving Parliament in the world.

The early Icelanders revered the concept of law, yet lawlessness and disorder was rife. They lost their independence in 1262 to Norway but continued to feel independent. They underwent centuries of colonial oppression from Denmark.

They suffered appalling privations from bad weather, and a series of natural catastrophes, famine, volcanic eruptions, intense cold, yet when the Danes proposed to evacuate the surviving population at the end of the 18th century, when the country was at its lowest ebb, it was indignantly refused.

Remarkably, day by day, the town was gradually engulfed by burning ashes or creeping lava. And just as remorselessly, the squads of volunteers fought back. Week after week, they pumped countless millions of gallons of sea-water on the crawling tongue of lava, trying to cool it sufficiently to form a barrier-crust that would deflect its course away from the harbour. And in the end, they won. By the time the re-eruption came to an end, five months later, the lava had spent itself on the harbour approaches, not the precious harbour itself, and Heimaey was left with a splendid new breakwater!

Heimaey today is once again a thriving, bustling

Nothing can be more extraordinary than the way in which the inhabitants of the Westmann Islands, just off the south coast of Iceland, coped with "their" volcano when it burst into life during the night of January 22/23 1973, right on the threshold of the fishing town on the island of Heimaey. By dawn, all the 5,000 inhabitants had been evacuated safely to the mainland — and a long, grim battle against the volcano itself had begun.

Remarkably, day by day, the town was gradually engulfed by burning ashes or creeping lava. And just as remorselessly, the squads of volunteers fought back. Week after week, they pumped countless millions of gallons of sea-water on the crawling tongue of lava, trying to cool it sufficiently to form a barrier-crust that would deflect its course away from the harbour. And in the end, they won. By the time the re-eruption came to an end, five months later, the lava had spent itself on the harbour approaches, not the precious harbour itself, and Heimaey was left with a splendid new breakwater!

Survival. It became a way of life. The worse conditions became, the more stubbornly the Icelanders clung to their homeland. Love of their country was a constant theme in their poetry, pride in their past a constant solace.

They came to cherish the very volcanoes that so often threatened to destroy them, learned not to fear them, and eventually to tame them.

continued on next page

### Lady with a love of peace

The world is getting used to the idea of women leading governments. Israel, India, Sri Lanka, Portugal and Norway, as well as Britain, have all had female Prime Ministers. But President Vigdís Finnbogadóttir of Iceland, who begins an official visit to Britain today is the first woman to be democratically elected as head of state.

She has never been a member of a political party. "I would never be able to accept the rules", she told *The Times* in Reykjavik earlier this month. She disclaims any long-term ambition for the office. When it was first suggested to her in 1979 that she should run for the presidency, "I thought it was a joke. But you never know how people see you."

A late entrant in the 1980 presidential race against three male candidates, Vigdís Finnbogadóttir was taken to task by the Right for having in the past opposed the American-manned Nato-base at Keflavik, outside the capital.

But her office precludes any involvement in party political issues, although the presidency itself is not purely ceremonial. The president has a right to veto any parliamentary Bill, but this sanction can only come into effect if upheld by a referendum. Such a presidential prerogative has never been exercised since Iceland gained its independence from Denmark 38 years ago.

She described the role of president as being that of a kind of midwife to the political parties who have to agree on forming a government after every Icelandic general election. Not since the 1931 poll has a single party won a majority of seats.

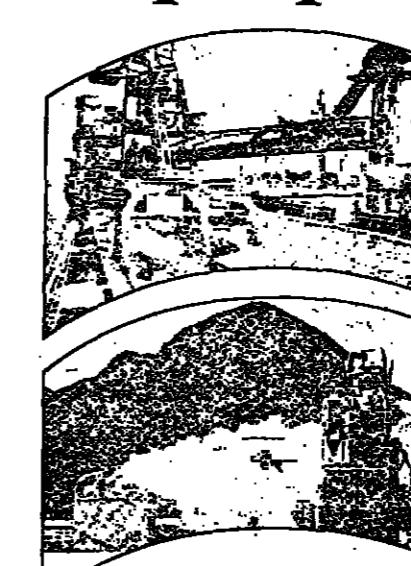
President Vigdís confides herself now to saying that in her advocacy of peace she is a realist and is aware that the world is divided into different camps. But she was preoccupied with the danger of people's attention drifting away from the necessity for peace. "Think about it from day to day, that's the main thing", she said.

Where she feels no inhibitions is in an arena into which British candidates for high office would hesitate to venture. To have intellectual interests is as natural in Iceland as going fishing.

"I believe I was elected because I talked culture, culture and history", she said. "This society, as an industrialized society, is so young. All the banks and big

continued on page III

## Our role in a prospering economy



Iceland has great potential in its abundant energy resources and rich fishing grounds. Only 12% of hydro-electric energy and 4% of geothermal energy is currently harnessed. Conservation measures taken by the Government of Iceland are expected to guarantee continued growth and prosperity for the fishing sector, the most important export industry. Capital and financial expertise are needed for further development of the energy and fishing resources as well as to meet the other demands of a growing economy.

If you are interested in doing business in Iceland, contact The National Bank of Iceland. We are interested in helping you. That is our role.



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**ICELAND**

**Magnus Magnusson**  
continued from page one

fishing port. The people who had been evacuated have returned and rebuilt their town. The radiant heat from the lava is being used to boil water for a central heating system for every new house. It was the first time in history that man had fought a volcano and won.

Heimaey is both symbol and symptom of the resilience that kept Iceland alive during the difficult centuries. That very act of survival has made the Icelanders more intensely aware of their country than anything else could. It forged the patriotism that informed the independence movement that was crowned in 1944 when Iceland once again became an independent republic, just as the spectacular contrasts of Icelandic nature have helped to create the contrasts of the Icelanders' nature.

There could be another factor to be taken into account, however. Although the first settlers of Iceland were Nordic, many of them brought with them wives or concubines from Ireland, if they happened to stop off there on the way. Some scholars think there may have been as much as 40 per cent Celtic blood in that early settlement stock. Perhaps it is the Irish connexion that has helped to make the Icelanders who they are.

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Iceland's external trade is based on fish

Marine products comprise over 76% of Iceland's total exports. Consequently, Iceland's imports are largely financed through export of marine products.

Útvegsbanki Íslands (The Fisheries Bank of Iceland) is involved in all facets of the country's external trade.



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and Vestmannaeyjar

Thingvellir: the lava arena where the open-air Icelandic Parliament (the Althing) first met in 930, and where Iceland was proclaimed an independent republic in 1944. The modern Althing meets indoors in the centre of Reykjavik.

Seventy two thousand foreign visitors came to Iceland last year. Some were on brief transatlantic stopovers. Others took time to explore the country.

Dick Phillips describes reminders of an earlier age

**Where even the wheel arrived late**

Two aspects of Iceland will strike the visitor with an impact paralleled in few other countries. The first is the twin feature of geology and scenery. These are so closely related that even the most casual observer cannot pass without learning something of glaciology, volcanology, and the tangle of "ologies" that make up geomorphology.

Within a small area, quite different circumstances have produced, in very recent times, totally different landscapes, the formation processes continuing, at far above their expected rate, before our eyes today. Iceland is God's gift to David Bellamy, and to anyone seeking to explain to others, or see for himself, the secrets — not secret in Iceland — behind the nature of our earth and our environment.

The second aspect is less tangible, less easy to label, but every traveller notices that between the ports and the interior deserts, habitation is almost entirely in isolated farmhouses, each building standing square in its own home-field, remote from its neighbours.

In the last 80 years townships have grown up around the harbours where the old trading stations formerly stood, also in isolation, and there is a handful of inland "towns", even more recent in growth, at natural commercial and communications centres, Selfoss by far the largest, dates from the late 1920s and 40 years ago had still fewer than 400 people.

We can talk of up-country Iceland, but very recently this was the Iceland of virtually the entire population. Each farm had to be built where there was naturally drained land, and access to extensive "out-hay" — uncultivated grass which before the days of wire fencing was laboriously mown, turned by hand, and brought home on pack-horses — for the winter feed on which the household's survival on its own farm depended.

Older people living today were born into this world of undrained land, unfenced fields and desperately primitive communications. The modern road building pro-

gramme is always dated from the first vehicular road bridge, which in 1891 enabled that revolutionary new vehicle, the one-axled horse-drawn cart, to reach southern Iceland from the capital. Before that, the government roads department's job was not so much to build roads, as to put up cairns to show where the roads would have been if they had existed at all. Many of these lines of beautifully built cairns still mark the old routes.

The oldest people may still remember their first sight of the ultra-modern — as it seemed — horse-drawn cart which in most places came and disappeared in a little over 50 years — just one aspect of the total transport revolution, pack-horse to jet aircraft, which occurred in a single lifetime, and which is itself only one of many facets of the transformation of living standards in the same period.

In my own valley, the last horse-drawn cart went out of use in 1960. Pack-horses, useful in more specialized circumstances, were regularly used to take out provisions for the autumn sheep gathering in the uninhabited interior up to 1967.

In the past 30 years, local museums have been established in most counties. The custodians are proud to show how old their exhibits are, but what astonishes the foreigner is their newness.

Many, perhaps most, of the items displayed, first adopted by a highly cultivated people for their incredibly hard subsistence economy, were still in regular use on some farms into the 1950s, and in isolated cases much later. It is difficult for us to enter into the late nineteenth and early twentieth century world where these implements, fashioned from driftwood, bone, horse-hair or limestone, were the basic materials of household and farming existence.

There is a strange contrast between the tenacity of the nation over the centuries and the lack of individual innovation. Not only was the wheel decidedly late, no one ever thought, for example, to build a stone arch. Jon Jonsson of Vogar, a local genius who lived by the lake of Myvatn in the 1850s and 1860s, was in time to be the first man in his area to learn to swim; the first to intro-

duce instrumental music; the first to learn a language other than Icelandic, Danish or Latin; and the first to decorate his living room. He was the second in his area to plant potatoes, almost 100 years after their introduction to Iceland, and was a pioneer in learning joinery and building stone walls to control his stock.

Yet his was a far from lethargic community; his diary also tells of his neighbours forming a reading society, examining the advantages of emigration to America; and subscribing to help farmers in another part of the country who had had to slaughter their flocks to prevent the spread of disease.

Many of the nineteenth century travellers to Iceland thought their experiences remarkable enough to warrant writing books about them. Some were quite notable people, such as W. J. Hooker of Kew, Sir Henry Holland, Lord Dufferin, Sabine Baring-Gould, Anthony Trollope, William Morris, Viscount Bryce, Sir Richard Burton, W. G. Collingwood and, coming to this century, W. H. Auden and Louis MacNeice.

The value of their writings varies a lot. Some wrote of nothing but their personal hardships, and many jumped to false conclusions from superficial evidence; but most are well worth reading for a glimpse into life at or just before the period that can still be remembered.

Details may be in error. But when we read of the family at Hals, 12 people living in a turf-walled room 12 feet by eight, and having only one cooking pot — and that had a hole in it — we cannot help admiring a nation that survived many generations under such conditions, to rise to one of the highest standards of living in Europe today.

Although most of the population has chosen to give up the hard life that is inevitable for farmers in the Icelandic climate, the farms, now with more machinery and fewer people, remain in testimony of the way of life that brought Iceland through the centuries since the Settlement. And still, in the 1980s, the discerning traveller will find traces of the old, hard conditions from which the modern prosperity has so recently arisen.

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The partially frozen Gullfoss (Golden Falls) waterfall in southern Iceland.

**Peace lady**

continued from page 1

institutions date from this century. I am of the generation that has worked with these corporations, and this has required so much time that there is less time for passing on all the legends of the sagas. We don't have any castles, we have no cathedrals, but we have an art that is passed on through a tremendous lot of stories and the advent of television.

President Vigdís, who is 51, speaks of herself as someone capable of bridging the generations. She was brought up with the tradition of the sagas passed on to her by her parents and grandparents, has experienced the rise of post-war prosperity, the scattering of families and the advent of television.

She says that the young, old people, farmers, fishermen and intellectuals voted for her. In Iceland, farmers' wives had great responsibilities, and fishermen were used to leaving their women in charge when they were away at sea. But she readily concedes that many women voted against her, otherwise she would have carried much more than 33.8 per cent of the poll.

This was the first time that a woman had come forward as a presidential candidate. In the Middle Ages Icelandic women had the right to divorce and an automatic half share of the property if a marriage was dissolved.

But today only three of the 60 MPs sitting in the Icelandic Parliament (the Althing) are women, and it is said to be difficult to persuade them to stand. The president said she thought that many women had a preconceived idea that their head of state should be a man with a wife at his side.

Vigdís Finnbogadóttir was married early to a former schoolfriend and divorced 20 years ago. She has a young adopted daughter, Astridur. This is another sign of a lack of convention, for this was one of the first cases in the

country of a child being adopted by a single person.

President Vigdís believes that Icelandic girls should concentrate on reaching the same educational standards as men. When they do, "equality will come automatically."

She studied in France, Denmark and Sweden as well as at the University of Iceland. The subjects covered during these years included French and English, philosophy and the history of drama. She has taught Icelanders French both in school and through television, and lectured on French drama at the university. Like many Icelanders, she has done two jobs at the same time, in her case teaching and working first at the National Theatre and then at the Reykjavík Theatre, where she was the director from 1972 until 1980.

For a number of years, she has been involved in Nordic cultural affairs, and in September she is to open the "Scandinavia Today" exhibition in Washington, New York and Minneapolis at the invitation of the other Nordic heads of state.

"I always project Scandinavia as much as possible, especially Icelandic culture. I have travelled relatively often to France and Britain, and it's extremely difficult to find literature and art from the Scandinavian countries. Ibsen is always on the stage in Britain. But nothing has been translated since Ibsen and Strindberg."

"My ideal would be to have a special fund for scholarships for people from Britain, France, Germany and other nations who could spend a year or two in one of the Scandinavian countries as a preparation for specializing in translating literature." Her suggestion was that the costs of such a scheme could be split equally between the student's home and host country.

Denis Taylor



President Vigdís speaking at her inauguration in Parliament on August 1, 1980

## The snags in netting the rich harvest from the sea

Strange as it may seem, comparatively few Icelanders are fishermen. There are many more jobs in construction and manufacturing, which includes the building of small trawlers and the making of fishing equipment, clothing and furniture, and as many in farming and the service industries.

About 5,000 men at sea are backed up by another 9,000 employees in fish processing. Modernization means that even the number of fishermen is too high. Manning on the trawlers was an element in the pay strikes by Icelandic fishermen in December and January.

With the extensive updating of the trawler fleet during the 1970s, the 90 vessels now operating from Icelandic ports are too many. Even the extension of territorial limits to 200 miles, after more than 20 years of skirmishing with Britain in the cod wars had not provided the Icelanders with an untold harvest.

"We are approaching the maximum sustainable yield of cod stocks", Mr Steingrímur Hermannsson, the Minister for Fisheries, said in Reykjavík. In fact he thought this could almost be said to apply to demersal species in general. "We are getting about 670,000 tonnes a year of demersal fish, including about 450,000 tonnes of cod".

There can be unpredictability about certain types of fish. In 1967, for example, the herring stock collapsed. Now it looks as if the capelin stock is much smaller than expected. The authorities have had to allow the 52 boats which fish exclusively for capelin to catch some cod.

Restrictions on cod fishing include a ban for 150 days in the year, although trawlers may bring in other varieties such as haddock. Skippers are permitted some leeway on those days. But if they bring in more than a certain percentage of cod this is liable to be confiscated by the inspectors who operate in all Icelandic harbours.

Iceland does not have fish markets like those familiar in British ports. Prices are determined through negotiations between buyers and sellers four times a year. When a catch is landed it is weighed at an official weighing station.

America is the chief market for Icelandic exports, mainly frozen fish. All sales

to the United States were worth \$128.9m in the first nine months of last year. There are three Icelandic fish processing plants in the eastern United States.

Freeze fish fillets (valued at \$27,901,000 in the same period) headed the list of exports to the United Kingdom, followed in value by capelin oil (\$12,206,000). This, the next most lucrative

fish product, came after primary aluminium and aluminium alloys. Next in value came fresh fish and fish on ice (\$7,242,000).

After the intermittent tensions of the past three decades relations between Iceland and Britain are good. The British market has been historically of the greatest importance for Icelandic fish since the fourteenth century.

D.T.



Landing the catch at Heimaey, the community which was reborn after the great volcanic eruption of 1973

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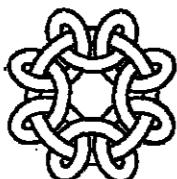
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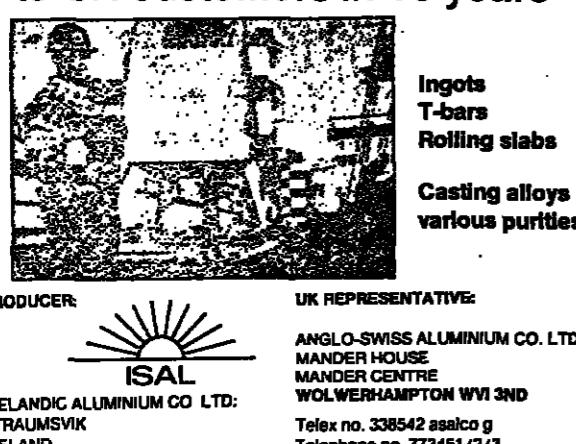
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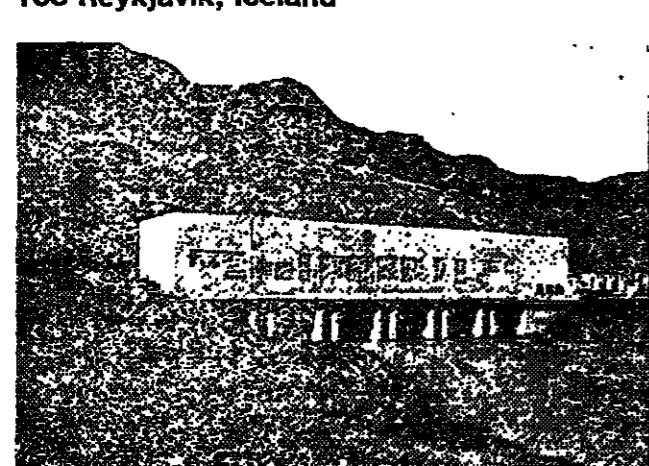
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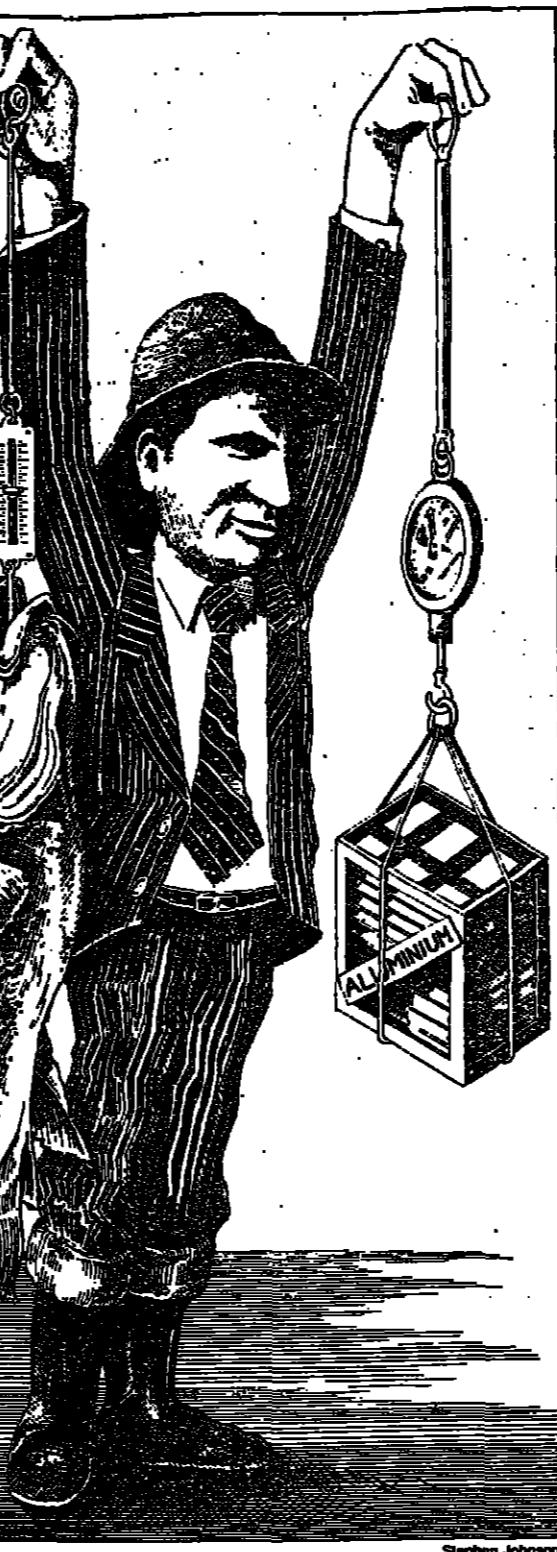
**ICELAND'S HYDRO POWER RESOURCES**

Landsvirkjun (The National Power Company) is a power development company established in 1965 by the Republic of Iceland and the City of Reykjavik. Landsvirkjun is supplying about 75% of the population in Iceland with electrical power besides being the main supplier of power to industrial development in Iceland. At the outset Landsvirkjun took over the Hydro Power Stations at Sog (89 MW) and completed in 1972 the Burfell Hydro Power Station (210 MW), in 1978 the Sigalda Hydro Power Station (150 MW), and is presently completing the Hrauneyjafoss Hydroelectric Project (210 MW) and new project sites are constantly being studied by the company.

Landsvirkjun has since 1969 been supplying power to the 80,000 ton aluminium smelter at Straumsvík in Iceland owned by the Icelandic Aluminium Company Ltd., a subsidiary of Alusuisse, Switzerland, and since April 1979 to the 50,000 ton ferrosilicon plant owned by Icelandic Alloys Ltd., which is 55% owned by the Government of Iceland and 45% by Elkem Spigerverket a/s Norway.

Iceland has very large unused resources of economical hydroelectric power.

The total economically harnessable hydro power in Iceland amounts to approximately 30,000 GWh per year, whereof only about 3,000 GWh or 10% have so far been utilized.



Stephen Johnson

is aroused by the idea of any sharply deflationary policy. The fear is that this would either bring unemployment or reduce living standards. Against this is the public assumption that there is no overwhelming evidence that high inflation has hurt people very much.

The second key-factor is

**The power still to be tapped**

When Britain stopped taking Icelandic fish during the 1952 dispute on fishing limits — the first cold war — the Russians stepped into the breach and set the pattern for a trade which developed during the next three decades. Iceland sold the Russians fish and took their oil.

This dependence on Soviet sources has declined in recent years, and now amounts to 60 per cent of total energy imports. Alternative sources have included the British National Oil Corporation. But Iceland is still in the very early stages of exploiting its own

energy resources. Only 11 per cent of the hydro-electric potential known to be technically exploitable has so far been harnessed.

More than 70 per cent of the population live in homes heated by geothermal power, but not more than 5 per cent of known energy from this source has been tapped.

Scientists at the University of Iceland are experimenting with alternative sources of fuel, including methanol derived from local peat as well as ammonia produced from air and water.

But any commercial exploitation of such sources is

clearly a long way off. For the time being, Iceland remains dependent for about 40 per cent of its energy consumption on imported oil and petrol.

Large scale use of Iceland's hydro power began little more than a decade ago.

The first 215 MW station at Burfell started up in 1969. This feeds the aluminium smelter at Straumsvík. A second plant at Sigalda (150 MW) supplies the ferro-silicon project at Hvalfjordur.

The National Power Company of Iceland foresees limits on the use of the hydro power not through technicality feasible to exploit. Many of the 100 potential sites "are small and economically unattractive and many others are beset with ecological problems". The company said in a recent study. It was now foreseen that only about 60 per cent of known hydro resources would ultimately be used. The company considers that technical and financial reasons will limit the scope for developing the number of feasible projects during the 1980s.

But in a more upbeat passage, it points out that 20 years ago geothermal power was thought to be of the same order of magnitude as that of Iceland's rivers and waterfalls. Now geothermal potential is believed to be many times greater. The drawback is that it is an inefficient resource from which to generate electricity.

Eighty-five per cent of geothermal energy is wasted if it is only used to produce electricity. "It is, of course, possible in many cases to

combine the production of electrical energy from geothermal resources and house-heating projects and/or industrial use, or injecting the used steam back into the ground, thus making full use of all the available energy".

The likely pattern of any large scale industrial development is likely to continue that started in the 1960s, the processing of raw materials demanding a high power content. As well as aluminium and ferro-silicon these include magnesium which can be extracted from the sea.

A significant harnessing of hydropower may be circumscribed by nationalist sentiments. While Iceland is well situated for refining raw materials and shipping them to North America or Western Europe, a substantial injection of foreign capital would be necessary for significant industrial development. The implications of this for a country so conscious of its heritage, and so anxious to protect the environment from pollution, have not yet been thought through.

The Straumsvík smelter is owned by the Icelandic Aluminium Company, a subsidiary of Swiss Aluminium. The ferro-silicon operation is owned 55 per cent by the Government and 45 per cent by Elkem Spigerverket, of Norway. There will obviously be constraints on the continuing ability of an Icelandic government to take a majority shareholding in such projects.

the way from Australia. Aluminium exports from Iceland to the United Kingdom in the first nine months of 1981 were worth \$13,472,000 almost half the value of the biggest single item, frozen fish fillets (\$27,941,000).

Ferro-silicon sales to Britain in the same period (\$2,323,000) were worth almost as much as frozen herring (\$2,447,000).

Fish products made up 90 per cent of Iceland's exports in 1970. That proportion has now dropped to 75 per cent. So a gradual shift is taking place, even although Iceland is only using 11 per cent of its estimated hydro-electric resources.

Mr Steingrímur Hermannsson, Minister of Fisheries, has been sounding a warning about the need for a greater spread of economic activity, particularly the need to develop power-intensive industries. "We shall not improve national income without present fish stocks," he said. "I am not sure that people realize we are at a crossroads."

Denis Taylor

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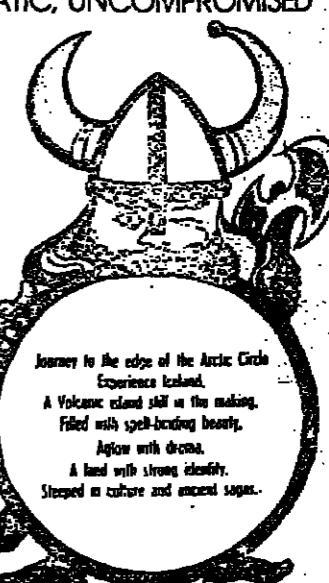
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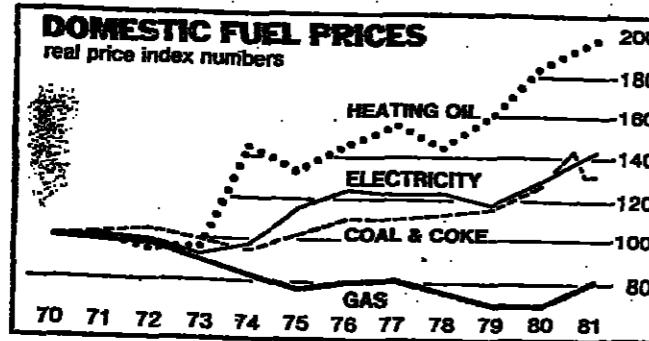
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## BUSINESS NEWS

### Gas tariffs double



The 23 per cent increase in domestic gas bills that British Gas is set to introduce from April means that gas tariffs will have nearly doubled in the last three years. But in real terms the new charges will not even bring gas prices back to the levels they were in 1970, according to Energy Department figures. Domestic gas consumers have fared much better than households that use other fuels. Heating oil has roughly doubled in real terms in the last decade.

### N Sea bid details soon

Details of the bid approach for the small North Sea investment company CCP North Sea Associates are expected to be disclosed early next week. The company, in which Cliff Oil has a 30 per cent stake and which holds a 6 per cent net production interest in the North Sea Buchan field, was capitalised at just under £12m at yesterday's suspension price of 145p. The approach has been made by a British company, with market speculation focusing on companies such as Charterhouse and Lasmo.

### Guernsey bank cash probe

A possible \$13m (£7.1m) fraud at First National Bank of Chicago's Guernsey subsidiary is being investigated by a federal grand jury in Chicago. First National confirmed that it is looking into alleged irregularities surrounding a loan to a customer, made by its Guernsey subsidiary. It said appropriate action over the loan had been taken in 1981, which was reflected in the bank's fourth quarter results.

### Portfolio Services Onshore drilling to pay debts

Investors and creditors in Personal Portfolio Services will be repaid in full after the group's provisional liquidation, it was decided yesterday. This followed a meeting between the directors of the PPS, a Yorkshire-based group headed by Mr Andrew MacHutchinson, a former Slater Walker associate, and accountants Arthur Andersen. The group was one third owned by Mr George Barlow, a partner of the Manchester stockbrokers Illingworth Henriques, and was believed to be managing funds totalling £1.75m.

### MARKET SUMMARY

#### US rate rise hits shares

##### LONDON EXCHANGE

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2.18.  
Bargain 18,549.

A hesitant start to business changed to a mood of downright depression yesterday as Wall Street touched a two — year low after disappointing money supply figures.

Reports that Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, had forecast no upturn in the recession until the United States budget deficit was under control were followed by news that two banks had raised prime rates by 17/4 per cent, with a closing 5% off and shorts closing in thin trade. Equities, however, failed to conceal their appointment with nervous fears leading the FT Index 6.9 down at the close at 557.2.

Investors in Reynolds Diversified, the Nevada — based exploration group whose shares were suspended by the Stock Exchange on Friday at 2p, will still be able to deal. Licensed dealer Harvard Securities is continuing to make a price in the stock at 1 1/4 pmt. Reynolds are returning.

The Council suspended the shares after discovering Reynolds does not have a United States quote as required under rule 183(1)(g). The board of Reynolds

##### COMMODITIES

The afternoon tin market maintained the higher levels against a background of technical lightness with further cash buying meeting with tree offerings which restrained any advance above the £8,960-a-tonne level.

**TIN**  
London close £ per tonne  
CASH 8,800  
3-MONTH 8,800  
JAN FEB

##### TODAY

Confederation of British Industry council meeting, London. Average earnings (December) and basic wage rates (January). Chartered Building Societies Institute debates motion "that building societies have failed". Company results: Half-yearly - United Real Property Trust; Final - Birrell Qualcast, Foreign and Colonial Investments, Gillett Bros, John Hadland, London and Lamond Investment.

##### OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Average 7,693.92 down 0.26.  
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,230.62 down 17.73

##### CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE  
STERLING \$ 1.8315 down 65 points  
Index 91.6 down 0.1  
DM 4,3900  
Fr. 11,1275  
Yen 441.00  
DOLLAR Index 113.4 unchanged  
DM 2,3935 down 22 points  
GOLD \$ 375.50 unchanged

##### MONEY MARKETS

The Bank bought £179m of bills in response to a foreign shortage of £150m. Its dealing rates were unchanged.  
Domestic rates:  
Base rates 14%  
3-month interbank 14%—14%  
Euro-currency rates:  
3 month dollar 16%—16%  
3 month DM 10%—10%  
3 month Fr. 15%—15%

## Retail and industrial sales slide

By Our Industrial Staff

Leading retailers and companies in the chemicals and other industrial sectors are reporting a substantial slide in sales over the past few weeks. This comes after successful January sales weeks, trade collapsed until Argos' new season catalogue gave a lift to sales last week. "Until the new catalogue we have been taking less money than the same time last year even though since then we have increased our square footage through new store openings by 16 per cent," he said. The sales downturns had been across the board in consumer durables.

Far from supporting ministerial claims of an economic upturn, it suggests that trading conditions may be getting worse in a number of key sectors.

Performance in chemicals so far this year has been at best similar to last year, at worst, declining. ICI said that while December had been a bad month, exacerbated by the long Christmas lay-off, January had also been poor, although the bad weather would certainly have depressed demand.

Overall 1982 had started disappointingly, although February's figures would be expected to show some recovery.

The Chemical Industries Association reported "evidence of a very strong downturn" in December, and other chemical companies said output and demand remained low.

A combination of the recession and bad weather is responsible for the downswing in the motor industry according to the latest Society of Motor Manufacturing Trades figures which indicate sales of new cars were down 16 per cent in January.

TI Creda, the consumer durables subsidiary of Tube Investments, reported disappointing January sales.

Electrolux of Luton reported a poor start to January with some improvement later in the month. But Orders are still hard to come by as retailers operate on slim stocks.

The picture in the textile industry remained gloomy, with one or two small producers reporting a decline.

But the British Steel Corporation said that there was no evidence of a downturn in the market which is likely to be reflected in lower production levels.

That would mean him being dismissed as chairman and chief executive of ACC and that the financial support given to ACC by the Bell group — it has guaranteed £50m of borrowings and given an unconditional £10m line of credit — would be stopped.

"There is not a way we would be able to turn the clock back," Mr Holmes a'Court said yesterday.

He said no directors had asked to be released from their irrevocable undertakings given to Mr Holmes a'Court at the first offer and all but one had signed a letter last week confirming their support for him in order to dispel rumours that they were waiving.



Mr Robert Holmes a'Court speaking at a meeting of ACC shareholders in London yesterday, with Mr Tony Lucas, company secretary.

## A'Court firm on shares transfer

By Philip Robinson

The Australian financier, Mr Robert Holmes a'Court hinted yesterday that he could think of no commercial circumstances in which he would release directors of Associated Communications Corporation from their promise to transfer their shares to him and give him control of Lord Grade's former company.

Although he has said in a High Court affidavit that he would be prepared to release the promises to accept his £36m takeover bid if it were the proper commercial course to take, he said that to fit release the directors he would have to turn the clock back to January 13, when his Bell Group made its offer.

He said no directors had asked to be released from their irrevocable undertakings given to Mr Holmes a'Court at the first offer and all but one had signed a letter last week confirming their support for him in order to dispel rumours that they were waiving.

Lord Justice Templeman said that if Mr Holmes a'Court's rival, Mr Gerald Ronson was seeking an order to freeze any transfers of shares from the ACC directors to Mr Holmes a'Court.

The hearing of Heron Group's appeal was adjourned yesterday after one of the appeal judges had described the position as "absolutely duty-bound".

Lord Justice Brightman, sitting with Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Templeman, said that from the "practical" point of view it would be quite wrong for a company which must be worth more than £36m to be sold for that amount.

If the directors were not bound by their undertaking they should not accept the Bell offer.

## British Gas share of oilfield 'worth £450m'

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

British Gas believes that its 50 per cent share of the Wytch Farm oil field in Dorset — which the Government has ordered it to sell — is worth £450 million.

It also claims that proven reserves on the Wytch Farm licence amount to 221 million barrels, more than double the last official figure of 100 million barrels.

By the time possible reserves on other so far undeveloped structures near the field are added its total reserves could be as high as 349 million barrels — equivalent to a medium-sized North Sea field.

The figures were disclosed yesterday with the publication of a report from the House of Commons Select Committee on Energy on the enforced sale of Wytch Farm.

British Gas gave the figures to the committee as a main reason for its rooted opposition to the disposal, which was ordered last summer by Mr David Howell, who then Secretary of State for Energy.

The decision to sell comes less than a week after the company attempted to reschedule about \$50m payments on nine new ships to be completed within the next two years.

Narby has put half of his North American operation on the market 15 months after purchasing a secondhand fleet for \$165m.

## Indonesian doubts on tin cartel

By Michael Prest

Malaysian officials arrive in Jakarta, Indonesia, today amid reports that the Indonesians are having doubts about setting up a tin producer's marketing organization. A tin producers' body which would bypass the existing International Tin Agreement is needed to sustain prices at their present high levels.

Datuk Paul Leong, the Malaysian primary industries minister, who is due in Jakarta today, said yesterday that Malaysia still wants the ITA as a forum for cooperation between tin producers and consumers.

But he also said that present tin prices are too low and that many of Malaysia's small gravel pump operators are losing money.

Cash tin closed in London last night at £8,960 a tonne, where the premium over three months metal is £1,063 a tonne. The widening gap between the two prices illustrates the tenseness of the market as those who went short three months ago try to cover their positions.

But Indonesian officials are less enthusiastic about the plan for a producer organization.

## UK hopes on satellite

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

An international consortium, led by Hughes Aircraft and including British Aerospace, is on the brink of winning a £250m contract to build the next generation of worldwide telecommunications satellites.

British Aerospace should get up to £50m worth of the business.

The 106-country International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (Intelsat) has decided to negotiate with Hughes rather than the rival consortium led by Ford Aerospace for the Intelsat VI series of satellites.

Hughes still has to satisfy Intelsat about the financial and technical details of its proposal before it is formally

awarded the contract. That is expected to happen at the end of March.

Hughes seems confident that a company with the immense negotiating experience of Hughes will not let the contract slip out of its hands.

The decision is an unexpected blow for Ford, which is building the current series of 15 Intelsat V and VA satellites.

Members of the Hughes consortium have not yet decided on the final share-out of Intelsat VI work.

However, BAe's satellite factories at Stevenage and Bristol are expected to manufacture the dishes.

## The best meetings take place

For over a decade people with a sense of occasion have chosen to rendezvous at the Inn on the Park.

Now we are also glad to say people with good business sense are choosing the Inn on the Park for meetings of another kind.

Though for much the same reasons.

First, and foremost, the Inn on the Park

is a luxury hotel.

But if you think this makes for an unbusinesslike venue, think again.

Nowhere are there surroundings more likely to make a lasting impression on colleagues and clients.

And nowhere is there an atmosphere more conducive to making business a pleasure.

This is made possible by service so thorough, efficient and so unobtrusive that it leaves the businessman totally free to deal with matters at hand.

No matter how big the business, or how small the gathering.

Then, there is the added incentive of not one but two world-class restaurants.

The Four Seasons which boasts cuisine fit for the palates of the greatest captains of industry.

And Lanes, where the whitest collars can loosen their ties...not to mention their belts.

All this, plus two bars and a lounge where even the fastest-moving executives will want to slow down and relax, makes the Inn on the Park the perfect setting for business of any kind.

If you would like to find out more about business meetings at the Inn on the Park, simply call our Banqueting Manager, Paride Alexander or Anthony Rivers on 01-499 0888.

where the best people meet.

## Management of UK economy has been 'terrible'

### Friedman attacks Thatcher policies

By Melvyn Westlake

Professor Milton Friedman, the Chicago economist and leading proponent of the monetarist policies adopted on both sides of the Atlantic, now says that the performance of the British economy under Mrs Thatcher's Government has been "terrible". He blames ministers for much of the rise in unemployment.

Speaking in a BBC television interview last night, Professor Friedman also emphatically denied that the policies of President Reagan were responsible for high interest rates in Britain. "...your high interest rates are a product of British policy and not of American policy", he insisted. That would not be true if currencies had a fixed exchange rate against each other.

But in a world where exchange rates are allowed to float, it is possible for any country to have the level of interest rates that it chooses, regardless of what happens in the United States. The interview with Professor Friedman was recorded in the United States and broadcast in the programme "American Attitudes".

Professor Friedman said that of the four elements in the British Government's economic policy, it had accomplished only one.

It had not got taxes and state spending down nor significantly reduced the Government's involvement in the economy.

However, the rate of growth in the money supply had been brought down as a result, inflation is lower today in Britain than it was shortly after Mrs Thatcher became Prime Minister.

Professor Friedman described the economy here as "desperately sick". "I don't see how you can use any other term for that." But he saw some

# Beware insurance risks and a Budget brake on cash

In the long term, just buy and bide

The composite insurance sector is very near its all-time low against the all-share index. Why nevertheless (Drew Johnston writes) are most of the composite insurers showing share price increases?

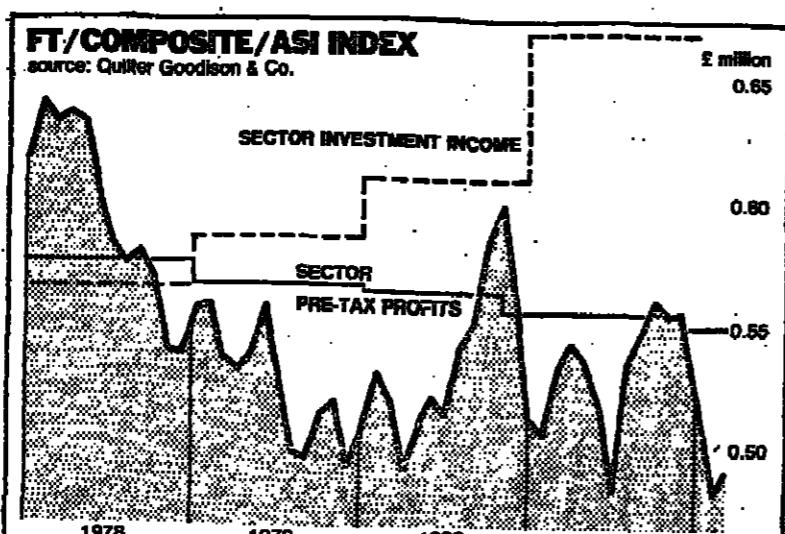
The reason is that some investors feel the nadir has been reached, but the share price recoveries are prompted by a variety of reasons.

Rumours of a fresh bid for Eagle Star, from Allianz Versicherungen and the promise of a 45 per cent increase in the dividend have pushed its price up. Increased dividends are expected at General Accident and Sun Alliance.

Other investors, looking for a long-term improvement, are prepared to buy and bide their time until the expected profits recovery gets under way in 1983-84. Improved performance is expected at Commercial Union and Royal Insurance when the United States insurance market becomes firmer.

The question is whether the sector has really reached its lowest point.

Floods, burst pipes and motor damage caused by the severe winter all played a part in



depressing the market's short-term profit expectation. But the sector's problems are more deep-rooted. Continuing high interest rates in the United States have persuaded the market that no real recovery in profits will take place for a couple of years. In both the United Kingdom and the United States, the insurance market is highly competitive, and few expect premium rates to be raised until American interest rates fall significantly.

The outlook for 1982 is poor. Most analysts expect the sector to under-perform the market. Competition in several assurance accounts, including motor, fire and general liability, will act as a brake on increased profits.

Commercial Union, which has a highly vulnerable United States operation, reports its 1981 figures next week. Pre-tax profit is forecast to be about £75m compared with £103m last year.

Dividend yield is forecast at 12 per cent, with a price earnings ratio of 10.5 or so.

General Accident's record for good management and long term growth is also threatened in the next couple of years. The problem is low growth in premium income and a squeeze on income from underwriting in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Premium growth has also fallen off at Phoenix Assurance and this is expected to have an impact on this year's performance. It also suffers from high exposure to motor household contents policy in the aftermath of the winter's claims.

Recovery in the Canadian and Australian markets is expected to help royal Insurance profits, but the market view holds that the United Kingdom performance has been unexciting.

Strongest figures in the sector over the next 18 months are expected to come from Guardian Royal Exchange. Premium income growth should be higher than the rest of the sector at about 9 per cent.

Eagle Star is forecast to make increased profits in both 1981 and 1982, despite a slowdown in premium income growth. Much of its business is conducted long-term, which will provide a revenue buffer. Cash flow is expected to fall unless premium income growth revives.

A slowdown is also expected at Sun Alliance, which also faces big payments of claims arising from the adverse weather.

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Investors feel the firm tone could deteriorate with the Budget on March 9 (Sally White writes).

Several thousand million pounds were waiting to go into gilts and equities in January once the miners' ballot came out against a strike. The question being asked now by the big institutional brokers is how much money there will be from March on to boost the market into further rises.

Anecdotal evidence would seem to indicate that while there is still some institutional liquidity around, much of the institutions' cash flow could be held for rights issues, government sales such as BNOC and for gilt sales.

Once all the backlog of company tax has flowed in, then the Government is more likely to be back to the gilt market for funds. These heavy tax payments helped to give sterling an upward push as companies repatriated money intended for the Inland Revenue.

Also helping the London markets has been the fall in interest rates. At present Europe is able to break the long-standing tie with United States interest rates. However, if the upward pressure on American interest rates continues at the present pace, Britain may be forced to follow suit or at least be prevented from making further cuts.

The Budget itself could turn out to be a disappointment. There is often an about-turn in market sentiment once the sums have been done. Industrial activity could already be faltering.

All these questions are enough to cause the market to be cautious about prospects from the Budget onwards.

## The cruel North Sea

Oil production companies will go on falling in price until Aramco and others stop unloading oil on the spot market (Sally White writes).

That is in view of the fact that is giving little comfort to holders of such as Tricentrol, Lasmu, and Charterhall in the North Sea. Unless the oil cartel organized by Opec is even more efficient than usual, the oil surplus could be around until next winter.

Others suffering because they have North Sea production are Cluff, Clyde, Daily Mail and General Trust, International Thomson and Charterhouse.

Shell, so the story goes, could benefit from lower crude revenue, giving it better margins on products where it can control the price on which it pays only corporation tax rather than the punitive petroleum revenue.

A rumour helping the United States oil companies is that the government there could bring in an import tax if Opec producers dump oil in the United States. This would mean at prices in the low thirty dollars a barrel to the upper twenties.



## W GERMANY

West German companies will invest less this year than in 1981 despite the offer of investment incentives under the government's job creation programme.

Heribert Schoeler, executive secretary of the industrial and trade association (DIHT), told press conference that a survey of 14,000 firms showed they were cutting investment because of lower profits and poor prospects for future earnings.

The government is offering a 10 per cent investment grant to companies which invest this year in new plant or buildings, provided they spend more than their average investment in the past three years.

## UNITED STATES

Firestone is to sell its Nashville, Tennessee, heavy-duty radial truck tyre plant to Bridgestone of Japan for \$20m (£28m).

General Motors is to close two California car assembly plants indefinitely and to scrap the second shift at its light-duty utility truck plant in Pontiac, Michigan.

## ITALY

Fiat and the American company Tecumseh Products are to produce and sell in Europe small engines for agricultural and other uses. The Italian car makers announced the Turin venture is called Technomotor, and it will make use of facilities at Aspera, a Fiat small motors subsidiary.

## FRANCE

The January jobless total in France was a seasonally adjusted 1,922,500, up 1.1 per cent on December. The new level represents about 8.3 per cent of the work force and is over 20 per cent higher than in January last year.

## JAPAN

Japan says it will retaliate against the EEC if Brussels lodges a formal complaint against Tokyo over trade.

## CAPITAL MARKETS

The EEC is raising DM200m through a 12-year Eurobond, lead managed by Deutsche Bank.

The issue carries a 9% per cent coupon with pricing at 99 per cent yield 9.91 per cent.

If the fourth issue in the new Eurobond calendar set 10 days ago totalling DM2,550m for bonds due until mid April. First price indications this morning were less than 9.4%.

Dart & Kraft Finance intends to make a public offer in Kuwait next month of \$25m of seven-year sinking fund bonds.

The bonds will have an interest rate between 11.75 per cent and 12 per cent. The issue will be priced on February 26.

Proceeds will be used to reduce short-term debt and for other corporate purposes. The issue is being underwritten by a group led by international investment, a private investment-banking concern. The offer is fully guaranteed by Dart & Kraft.

A five-year DM100m private placement for the Oesterreichische Kontrollbank has been launched at 9.95 per cent with a 9.87 per cent coupon bringing a yield of 10.12 per cent.

The manager of the bonds is the Bayerische Hypotheken und Wechselbank (Hypobank). The bonds were marked down 1% point from their expected pricing in the Greek market.

## WALL STREET

### Back in the black

Howard Machinery, the Berkshire based farm equipment group, was back in the black in the year to October with pre-tax profits of £78,000 against the previous year's loss of £5,2m. Turnover rose from £43.3m to £44.1m, but as in the previous year, the directors are not recommending any dividend.

The group has had considerable success with the Paraplow, a revolutionary farm implement to loosen soil which has won a number of awards. Howard had planned to manufacture 70 in the past year but eventually sold 250, with a number of further orders.

Two other successful products launched this year have been a tractor-drawn grain harvester produced by the group's French subsidiary and a new grape press from its German offshoot.

There has been speculation that the American group, Diamond Industries, would add to its 17 per cent stake in Howard. But an option which Diamond had held over a further 7 per cent of the shares has now expired.

## JOSEPH WEBB

### Midlands gloom

Midlands based Joseph Webb, the holidays and property group, report a slump in profits to £157,700 pre tax in the half year to September against £159,200, on turnover up from £24.3m to £26.1m. Its holidays and leisure division declined from £361,300 to £327,000, but property income rose from £68,900 to £70,500 with the prospect of improvement.

But with no land sales during the period or likely during the second half, the directors expect pre-tax profits in respect of the year ending March 31 to be down on last year's £561,000.

## PARKFIELD

### Major setback

The continuing effect of the recession on metal-based industrial companies has caused a significant setback at Parkfield Foundries of Stockton-on-Tees to the half year to October.

Profits fell from £111,000 to £14,750 and earnings per share dropped to 36p against 1.93p.

Sales moved ahead slightly to £2.39m against £2.25m, but redundancy costs of £22,000 led to an attributable loss of £11,500.

Despite this, £10,500 is being paid in dividends.

## INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES

Alcan Aluminum of Canada, 70 per cent owned unit of Alcan Australia, earned net profit of \$A57.34m (£42.24m), in 1981 against \$A8.73m in 1980. Alcan Australia chairman John Clarkson said a \$1.2m capital injection in 1981 had helped to turn a profit after a loss of \$A1.2m in 1980.

Impala Platinum holdings of South Africa declared an interim dividend of 25 cents (35 cents) and profit after tax and lease consideration of R51,240,000 (£25,492,537) against R63,561,000.

Australian aluminium maker Comalco reported 62 per cent drop in 1981 earnings, reflecting falling world demand for the metal and rising operating costs. Net

profit for the year was A\$28.43m (£16.43m) against A\$75.19m in 1980.

Toshiba Corporation of Japan said that sales in the third-quarter (October-December) of 1981 rose 13.8% to £1,904,72m from £1,558,210m a year earlier. Exports rose 90 per cent to Y150,300m.

Impala Platinum holdings of South Africa declared an interim dividend of 25 cents (35 cents) and profit after tax and lease consideration of R51,240,000 (£25,492,537) against R63,561,000.

## EUROPE AND DEALS

Foster Brothers Clothing has acquired the outstanding 25 per cent minority interest in Anglo American Retail Corporation, its United States subsidiary, which it now has a 32 per cent holding in Naftco Industries, a United States public company and an option to acquire a further 21 per cent in Naftco until October 1983.

The manager of the bonds is the Bayerische Hypotheken und Wechselbank (Hypobank). The bonds were marked down 1% point from their expected pricing in the Greek market.

## Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank ..... 14%  
Barclays ..... 14%  
BCCI ..... 14%  
Consolidated Crds' ..... 14%  
C. Hoare & Co ..... 14%  
Lloyds Bank ..... 14%  
Midland Bank ..... 14%  
Nat Westminster ..... 14%  
TSB ..... 14%  
Williams & Glyn's ..... 14%

\* Day deposits on sums of £10,000 to £100,000 and over 12.5%.

\*\* Withdrawals by day from £10,000 to £100,000 and over 12.5%.

The manager of the bonds is the Bayerische Hypotheken und Wechselbank (Hypobank). The bonds were marked down 1% point from their expected pricing in the Greek market.

## M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

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### The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82 High Low	Company	Price Chg. Doll.	% Actual Rate	P/E Ratio
124 100	ABI Hides 10% CULS	124	-10.0	8.1
75 62	Airprint Group	70	-4.7	6.7 11.1
51 33	Armitage & Rhodes	44	-4.3	9.8 3.7
205 187	Bardon Hill	204	-9.7	4.8 9.9
104 76	Deborah Services	76	-1	6.0 7.9 3.8
130 97	Frank Howell	123	-6.4	4.9 11.7
78 46	Frederick Parker	83	+2 6.4	7.7 4.2
102 93	IPC	97	+1 7.3	7.5 7.0
106 100	Iris Conv Prcf	106	+1 15.7	14.8
113 94	Jackson Group	94	+1 7.0	7.4 3.0
130 108	James Borrough	112	-8.7	7.8 6.2
324 250	Robert Jenkins	228	-2 31.3	12.4 3.5
59 51	Scruttons "A"	57	+1 3.3	9.3 6.8
222 163	Zorday & Carlisle	163	-1 10.7	6.6 5.2
15 10	Twinklock Ord	13/1	-	-
30 66	Unilever 15% ULS	77	-15.0	19.5 -
44 26	Unlock Holdings	26	-1 3.0	11.5 4.6
103 75	Walker Alexander	73/2	-8.4	8.8 4.8
263 212	W. S. Yeates	226	+2 13.1	5.8 4.3

## PEOPLE

**Renold - Sir Campbell tries again**

Renold, the gear and chain people of Wythenshawe, have like others fallen into loss-making, streamlining and redundancies. It has also chosen this moment to change pilots, and it has daringly chosen one who has already been shot down.

But as (non-executive) chairman in July will go long serving Mr Leslie Tolley at the fairly ripe age of 69, and in will come Sir Campbell Adamson, 10 years his junior, and still living down caustic remarks he made about the Heath Government and the old Industrial Relations Act during the miners' strike of 1974.

Poor Sir Campbell was credited, almost certainly unfairly with helping the Tories lose the general election which led to Heath departing from both the premiership and Tory leadership.

Intermittently he has learnt discretion. Back in 1965 he said when becoming director-general of the CBI: "I have a bear in my bonnet about people who make important statements about their new jobs". One of Sir Campbell's hobbies is arguing. This may cause trepidation among some Renold old hands whose board consists of seven non-executive directors to only four in the business.



Sir Campbell Adamson

**A blow in the bread basket**

As if Tim Howden, managing director of RHM's British Bakeries, had not enough to worry about thousands of those big plastic baskets used to deliver loaves have gone missing.

So many baskets have disappeared in South Wales since the year began that British Bakeries and Allied Bakeries, the other giant in the trade, have been putting joint half-page ads in Welsh newspapers appealing for their return. About 25,000 have vanished, and they each cost £1.

They are thought to make good dog kennels, rabbit hutches and toboggans.

**Bits of British Rail are learning to live commercially.** On one of the Sealink cross-channel ferries last weekend someone offered to clean cars for £1—not a service I could find anywhere in the brochure. European Ferries' plan to take over Sealink was blocked by the monopolies people but there is no doubt the Government wants to see Sealink in private hands. Perhaps the lone car washer should think of widening his horizon to a management buy-out à la National Freight.

**Will he no' come back?**

Young Mr David Rowland, still only 36, has lost none of his flair for attracting controversy even though he keeps out of the public eye. Why on earth share-holders in Williams Hudson, the transport and mining group, and our shares still suspended?

They had their quote withdrawn nearly a year ago. The word is that a planned takeover by Mr Rowland's private Panamanian group will not now proceed. Mr Rowland made his first million when he was 23 having become big in property.

Yesterday Mr Simon Knot, of Greene & Co, Hudson's broker, said: "Mr Rowland has not been in touch with us for two years. But we will not resign as company brokers because the group is entitled to a conduit to the stock exchange which it may one day need. However we feel badly treated."

Peter Wainwright

**NEW APPOINTMENTS**

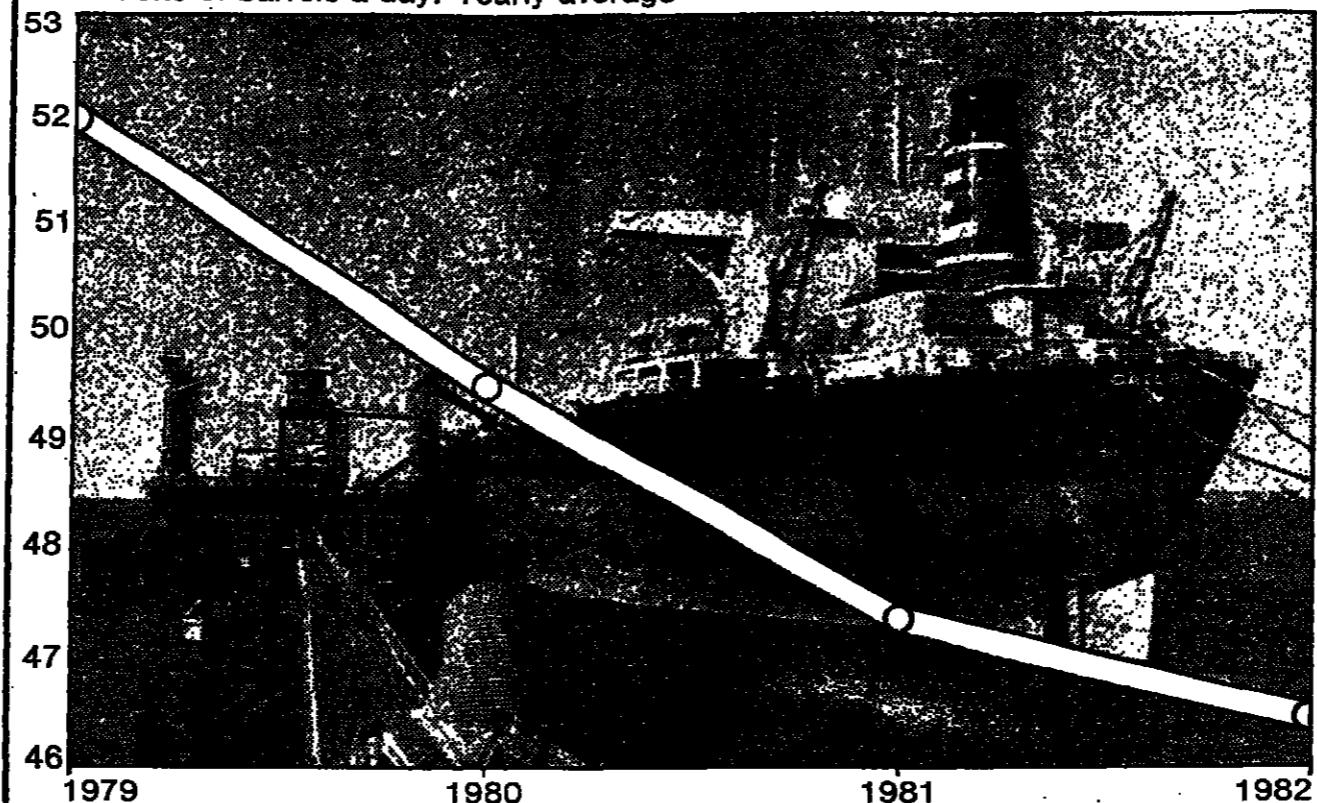
Dr J. Birks has succeeded Mr M. H. W. Wells as chairman of Charterhouse Petroleum. Mr Richard Rees, financial controller of Hepworth (Retail) has been appointed financial director.

Mr M. Shanks is appointed chairman designate of Geosett Holdings and will succeed Mr B. Mills as chairman on retirement on March 31. Mr Shanks is appointed vice-chairman following Mr D.

# Tumbling oil prices: Why it is Opec's turn to get nervous

**HOW DEMAND HAS SLUMPED**

Millions of barrels a day. Yearly average



ing pressure on Saudi Arabia, the world's largest single oil exporter, and producer of 40 per cent of Opec's total current 20 million barrel a day output, to reduce its production from the present level of around eight million barrels a day.

The financial pressure on the less well-endowed Opec members is greater than many people realize. The Bank for International Settlements, for example, reported earlier this week that the oil exporters, as a group, are now net borrowers of funds from the Western banking system for the first time since the end of 1978. The burden is not evenly spread.

Calculations by *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly*, a leading oil industry journal, show that only four Opec members — Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, United Arab Emirates and Qatar — are producing enough oil in the present depressed market to balance their domestic budgets. (President Reagan is not alone in his problems.)

Worst hit of the remaining nine countries are Iran and Iraq, which are earning less than half what they need at a time when they are still engaged in a protracted and expensive war. Industry calculations are that the nine Opec producers with financial shortfalls would have to raise output by five million barrels a day to make up the gap. That assumes prices remain stable. But then, of course, if they were to churn out more oil, prices

would inevitably fall. The problem is that only concerted action by all Opec countries in adjusting production levels can save the price structure: but Saudi Arabia, the key to the whole process, has always insisted that the amount of oil it produces is a sovereign matter for itself — and not Opec — to decide. A lot depends therefore on how Saudi Arabia decides to act.

The intentions of the Saudis and Shahki Yamani, their oil minister are always hard to read. But only last week Yamani said he did not see that there was any justification for holding an emergency Opec meeting to discuss the crisis. Having vainly attempted to moderate the more hawkish Opec members' demands for ever higher oil prices during the 1979-80 post-Shah oil price explosion, Saudi Arabia according to some observers may now be adverse to seeing those same Opec colleagues now suffer some of the consequences.

However, Saudi Arabian oil production, which slipped under 8 million barrels a day last month from its official ceiling of 8.5 million barrels, may well be allowed to slip further without the Saudi rulers making any official announcements. A full-scale publicly announced cut in output of say 2 million barrels a day cannot be ruled out however — and that would take up most of the slack in the world oil market. Despite its present prob-

lems, it would be foolish and premature to write Opec off — or to claim that it is on the verge of collapse. But the conventional wisdom in the oil industry — that Opec only operates as an effective cartel when prices need defending, and not when they need raising (which usually turns into a free-for-all judging by the events of 1979 and 1980), is put to the sternest possible test.

The numbers in the world oil supply and demand balance indicate how far prices may have to fall unless Opec sorts out its internal difficulties.

Total non-communist world demand has fallen away steadily from 52 million barrels a day in 1979 to 47.3 million barrels a day last year. This year it could drop to 45 million barrels a day during the summer, when demand is historically weak, and average out for the year as a whole at around 46 million barrels a day.

Taking account of the increased production now coming from non-Opec sources such as Mexico and the North Sea, that implies that the market for Opec oil will be no more than about 2.5 million barrels a day. That would be roughly equivalent to last year's Opec output, which was already the lowest since the early 1960s.

The real crunch will come with winter, and the long-awaited world recovery from recession. When economic activity picks up, so will oil

demand. But how much will depend crucially on how effective the trebling of the oil price between the end of 1978 and the middle of last year has been in stimulating conservation and substitution of other fuels for oil.

All the indications on that score are encouraging. Between 1978 and 1981 the seven leading OECD economies, the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Canada and Britain, cut their oil use by 23 per cent — seven times as large as the switch away from oil use prompted by the first oil price explosion in 1973-4.

Most encouraging has been the response in the United States, where oil imports have slumped from their peak of 6.5 million barrels of oil in 1977 to an estimated 3.5 million barrels of oil today. How far will oil prices fall? Oil traders, many of whom have been making money out of talking the price of oil down in recent weeks, say that it could yet fall as far as \$28 or even \$25 a barrel.

Some oil companies (still a minority) express similar sentiments. The International Energy Agency has rightly been urging countries not to get complacent about efficient use of oil — again — now that prices are falling. Complacency would be one way of easing Opec's crisis without too much bother. While it is down, Opec is still far from out.

Jonathan Davis

# Can women take the pressure?

Can women cope with a variety of organizations and industries.

The initial sample is small, so it is far too early to draw conclusions, but the early evidence do provide some "signposts" which we shall be watching for as the sample is expanded.

The percentage figures used to express results are based on those responding to particular question. The response rate was very high but occasionally a manager declined to answer an individual question.

The first interesting, but perhaps not surprising finding was that only 33 per cent were married, whereas 28 per cent were single, 22 per cent divorced/separated, and 17 per cent "living together".

This is consistent with American studies, which have shown that the first crop of women managers to get to senior management positions frequently can only do so by pursuing their career to the exclusion of a family or any consideration of a family. Our research indicates, however, that a greater proportion of the next generation of women managers (now in junior management positions) are married with families as well as careers.

The detailed analysis of the 20 showed that 44 per cent had used tranquilisers sometimes during their career, although the vast majority of these only used them during periods of work stress. Many had sleeping difficulties, with 40 per cent acknowledging "difficulty getting to sleep" and 50 per cent admitting to "walking several times during the night". Indeed, 35 per cent indicated that they took Mogadon or other sleeping tablets, but only for short periods of time. It was also found that 56 per cent of them had "less sleep than they needed", averaging only about 6 hours a night. While only 5 per cent of the sample smoked cigarettes, 28 per cent of them had between one and six alcoholic drinks a day (usually during business lunches or dinners); with 17 per cent having between three and six drinks a day.

Our investigation of the first group of 20 female executives has been revealing. The sample in this detailed clinical study consisted of senior women managers, with an average age of 33 and salaries in excess of £1,000.

They ranged in function from personnel, to finance/accounting, to general management, and were from a

larger sample are available to confirm this.

It was also revealing that more than half the group of 20 felt "severely stressed to the extent that their capacity to cope with difficulties had been reduced for several days or longer, or at least three times during the last 10 years of their work life, with 28 per cent experiencing five or more such stressful occasions.

When asked what work-related problems were the major causes of their stress the results were as in the table.

- Relationships with senior colleagues at work — 100%
- Conflict between personal standards and work demands — 72%
- Freedom at work — 72%
- Inability to cope with the challenge of work (competition, deadlines) — 66%
- Frustrated ambition over career — 50%

- Relationships with colleagues of equal status at work — 50%
- Long hours away from family — 33%
- Relationships with junior colleagues at work — 33%
- Inability to delegate — 28%
- Fear of redundancy — 22%

A major problem faced by many women managers is trying to maintain a career and a family at the same time, as illustrated by their "frustration over a future career", "long hours away from home", and so on.

A 42-year-old personnel manager in our sample illustrates this dilemma. She left school at 17, went abroad for a couple of years as a nannie and then joined an independent television company as assistant personnel officer and stayed for nearly two years. She then married at 21 and had two children, but carried on working. Her husband was also in personnel, but at a very senior level. She was determined to maintain and develop her career in the personnel field, but the demands on her husband's job (which necessitated a number of geographical moves) and her children's education made it difficult for her to sustain her career.

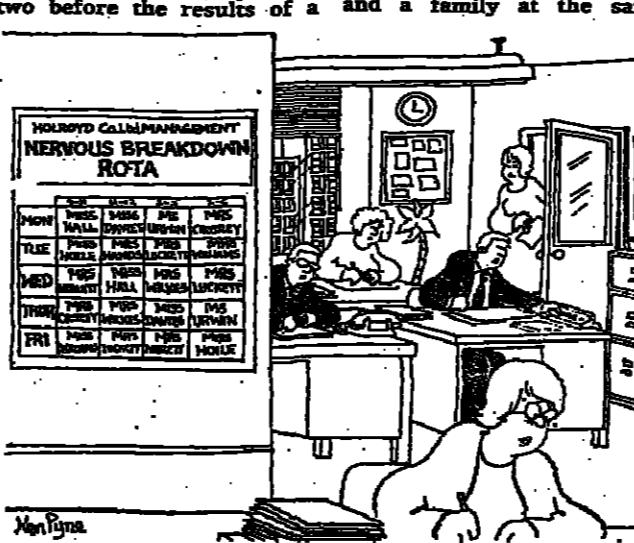
She worked for a grocery chain, a pharmaceutical company, and another TV company, as she moved around the country with her husband until finally she began to show increasing signs of stress. She started drinking fairly heavily, averaging about three whiskies a night, and 2½ Mogadon to get to sleep.

She has tried to reduce the Mogadon, but finds when she does that she does not sleep so well, waking early and constantly worrying... this vicious circle makes her even more depressed and has adversely affected both her work and her marriage. She is having more frequent bouts of depression and her relationship with her husband has deteriorated.

This case is an extreme example of what we are finding all the time in industry, the pressures on women of trying to balance the world of work and home, a task which seems to generate very little support from husbands and companies.

Cary Cooper is Professor of Organizational Psychology and Head of the Department of Management Science at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

Andrew Melhuish is Medical Advisor to the Administrative Staff College, Henley.

**Business Editor**

## Tightening up on the USM

Because of the inherently higher risk in dealing with young, immature companies, the stock exchange's Unlisted Securities Market will have weather accidents in its first few years. How well the USM develops as an alternative to a full listing for companies which are too small and without a good enough trading record will, to some extent, depend on how it copes with thrills and spills which have upset the market in recent months.

These could, if the stock exchange is not careful, make investors more wary in future.

To much, then, should not be read into Euroflame's local difficulties at the moment for the development of the USM as a whole. It is not after all the first USM stock to get into trouble — the Nasdaq, for instance, has been rather wider than many small investors are used to.

All the same the Euroflame troubles should again force the stock exchange to review its entry requirements to the USM, and whether in particular they should not be tightened up to include a more rigorous independent report from an accountant.

**Gilts Resilient**

New York markets returned from Washington's Birthday yesterday with an almighty hangover. Down went bond prices and the Dow Jones Industrial Average, the latter quickly piercing its previous 1981-82 "low". The consensus view seems to be that the big banks may well push prime rates up to 17 per cent before too long — the question being whether that will be the top.

Meanwhile, United Kingdom interest rates remain remarkably steady. As far as money market rates go, this can be put down largely to the authorities' determination to keep rates roughly where they are. But there has also been considerable resilience in the gilt edged market under the circumstances.

The market remains thin at the moment with jobbers seemingly running relatively small books, so price movements may be sharp in either direction.

Investors however are clearly trying their hardest to put the United States out of their minds and concentrate on what they hope will be improving United Kingdom fundamentals — a gently falling inflation rate as the spring progresses, and a Budget that restricts funding for the next financial year.

## THE CHARTER TRUST & AGENCY PLC

Year ended 30th November 1981

Dividend: 3.45p Per Unit + 7.8%  
Net Asset Value: 106p Per Unit + 5.4%  
FT-Actuaries All-Share Index + 2.6%

Total Assets £44,810,422

**Percentage Distribution**

- 61% UNITED KINGDOM
- 25% NORTH AMERICA
- 12% JAPAN AND PACIFIC BASIN
- 2% EUROPE AND OTHER AREAS

"It is your Board's intention that the policy of concentrating the portfolio in a much smaller list of investments should be accelerated."

M. C. Devas, Chairman

**KBIM**

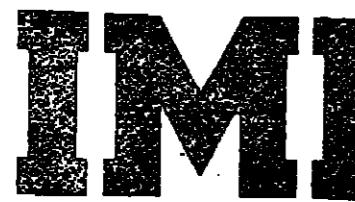
Managers:  
Kleinwort Benson  
Investment Management

Copies of the Annual Report are available from  
The Secretary, 20 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3DB

## HARDYS & HANSONS LIMITED

### Highlights from the Accounts and Chairman's Statement

- Despite continuing slow trade, turnover was up by £1 million in the year to 2nd October, 1981.
- Profit available for appropriation, at £1,400,000, is marginally up over a 52 week period, compared with £1,385,000 for 53 weeks in previous Accounts.
- We might have increased more sharply the price of our products but in the long run felt this undesirable.
- Dividend raised by just over 7% from 11.1p per share to 11.9p.
- Property revaluation at 30th September, 1981, shows a surplus of £9,873,000 over book value.
- Brewery expansion and modernisation scheme has brought an improvement in general standards. We now intend to proceed with a new copper/brewery at a cost of £250,000 at today's prices.



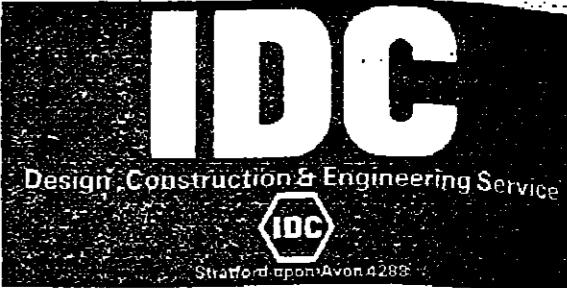
for building products,  
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fluid power, special-  
purpose valves,  
general engineering,  
refined and wrought  
metals.  
IMI plc,  
Birmingham, England

## Stock Exchange Prices

## Gilts hold steady

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Feb 15. Dealings End Feb 26. 5 Contango Day, Mar 1. Settlement Day, Mar 8.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



Design, Construction &amp; Engineering Service

Shardden-on-Avon 4285

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## House of Lords

## Law Report February 17 1982

## Chancery Division

**No offence when bona fide buyer sells**

**Regina v Bloxham**  
Before Lord Diplock, Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook  
(Speeches delivered February 11)

A bona fide purchaser for value does not commit an offence of dishonesty in the disposal or realization of stolen property for the benefit of another if, when he sells the goods, he knows or believes them to be stolen.

The House of Lords unanimously held when allowing an appeal by Albert John Bloxham from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dunn, Mr Justice Kimber Brown and Mr Justice Tait) on February 24, 1981, (1981 WLR 859), of his appeal against conviction at Southampton Crown Court (Judge McCleary) of handling stolen goods contrary to section 22(1) of the Theft Act 1968.

Section 22(1) provides: "A person handles stolen goods if... knowing or believing them to be stolen, goods he... dishonestly disposes of... their... disposal or realization... for the benefit of another person..."

Mr R. N. Titheridge, QC and Mr D. L. Griffiths for the appellant; Mr Swinton Thomas, QC and Mr Neil Butterfield for the Crown.

LORD BRIDGE said that in January 1977 the appellant purchased a Ford Cortina motor car for £1,300. He paid the seller £50 in cash and was to pay the balance when the seller produced the car registration documents.

In the event that never happened. The car had in fact been stolen but the Crown accepted that the appellant did not know or believe that when he acquired the car.

In December 1977 he sold the car for £200 to an unidentified third party who was prepared to take the car without any registration documents.

At the trial it was submitted that the court disclosed no intent in the disposal or realization of the car had been for the appellant's own benefit, not for "the benefit of the unknown purchaser, and that in any event the words were not within the ambit of categories of "another person" contemplated by section 22(1).

The judge ruled that the purchaser derived a benefit from the sale of the car which he got no title, he had the use of the car, that there was no reason to give any restricted construction to the words "another person" in the subsection; that, accordingly, the car was disposed of for the benefit of the appellant had undertaken the disposal or realization of the car for the benefit of another person within section 22(1). In the face of the ruling, the appellant entered a plea of guilty.

The Court of Appeal affirmed the trial judge's ruling and dismissed the appeal. The point of law certified was: Does a bona fide purchaser for value commit an offence of dishonesty under section 22(1) of the Theft Act 1968?

The critical words to be construed were "undertakes... their... disposal or realization of another person". In isolating the words in section 22(1), namely "otherwise than in the ordinary course of business", the court concluded that, if A sold his own goods to B, it was a somewhat strained use of language to describe that as a disposal or realization of the

goods for the benefit of B. It was the purchase not the sale that was what A was selling to B. It would be entirely natural to describe the sale as a disposal or realization for the benefit of another person.

However, the words could not be confined in such a narrow context bearing in mind that the second half of section 22(1) created a slight offence which could be committed by a person who made more specific and weightier indications which pointed in the same direction as the general rule.

It was significant that section 22(1) of the 1968 Act had protected the innocent purchaser of goods who subsequently discovered that they were stolen. Words in parenthesis in section 22(1), namely "otherwise than in the ordinary course of business" were designed to avoid subjecting thieves in the ordinary course to the heavier penalty provided for handlers.

Finally, the report of the Criminal Law Revision Committee (C.L.R.C.) 122 gave a general indication of the mischief aimed at by the Act which was subsequently passed.

There was no hint in ensuing paragraphs that a situation in any way approximating to the circumstances of the present case lay outside the mischief of the Act.

Lord Justice Phillips said of the appellant, a purchaser of stolen goods who was clearly guilty of an offence under the first half of section 22(1) but had taken a new class of offence under the second half, that "he was involved in the realization".

Lord Justice Phillips had meant to say that a purchase of goods was a realization of those goods by the purchaser, respectively, if the disposition had to be effected.

If the foregoing considerations did not resolve the issue of construction in favour of the

appellant, at least they were sufficient to demonstrate that there was an ambiguity. As a result, the criminal statute had to be resolved in favour of the subject, namely, in favour of the narrower rather than the wider operation of an ambiguous penal provision.

Thus, the more specific and weightier indications which pointed in the same direction as the general rule.

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**Capital transfer tax avoidance fails**

**Inland Revenue Commissioners v Brandenburg**  
(Judgment delivered February 12)

A complicated tax avoidance scheme designed to enable an elderly mother to give her daughter £40,000 free of capital gains tax failed to succeed.

The scheme involved the assignment of the income from the fund to the daughter, it was entitled to an interest in the settled property.

Mr JUSTICE NOURSE, in a reserved judgment, said that the Crown now relied on an argument that it had not been proved that the scheme was successful.

The trustees invested the fund in various securities that were excluded property for tax purposes when beneficially owned by a non-resident under paragraph 3(2) of schedule 5.

Under paragraph 3(1)(b) of schedule 5 income was to be treated as the property of the settlor and the income from the fund to the daughter was to be treated as the property of the settler.

The trustees invested the fund in various securities that were excluded property for tax purposes when beneficially owned by a non-resident under paragraph 3(2) of schedule 5.

That was enough for the Crown to succeed and his Lordship said that he would not decide whether the scheme had had no chance arising on the assignment to the daughter, whether the scheme as a whole constituted a disposition effected by "associated operations" under sections 51(1) and 44.

The scheme was caught by the disposal by "associated operations" provisions in sections 51(1) and 44 of the Act.

On December 9, 1977, the taxpayer, who was resident in the United Kingdom, settled £40,000 on trustees; the income of which was to be for his daughter, a close company based in Jersey. The assigned share capital of that company was in the absolute beneficial ownership of the

taxpayer during the short trust period.

Thereafter the settled property and its future income were to be held in trust for the daughter absolutely.

No liability to the tax arose on the creation of the settlement by virtue of paragraph 3 of schedule 5 to the Act.

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of schedule 5 included the charge under paragraph 4(1) under which an interest in possession treated as transfer of value. The answer was in the affirmative on the ground that it was one of the purposes of schedule 5 to impose such a charge.

Accordingly, paragraph 24(5) required the taxpayer and not C Ltd to be liable as the principal in respect of the interest in possession by the daughter absolutely.

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To decide that question one had to decide whether the purposes

GEC provided was an opportunity to borrow and that was different from an opportunity to acquire the shares.

But on any fair use of language it was impossible to say that the taxpayer did not acquire his shares in pursuance of an opportunity offered by GEC to him as an employee. Nor did it make any difference to the conclusion that the commissioners had found that the taxpayer could well have afforded to buy the shares without a loan and would probably have done so.

Further, the taxpayer's submission as to the second requirement of the sub-section failed also. It was a short point of convenience that the taxpayer's acquisition of the shares was not in pursuance of an offer to the public.

The taxpayer argued that the opportunity for him to purchase the shares was not provided by GEC but by the joker from whom he had obtained the shares in the market. He would have sold them to anyone who paid his price and neither knew nor cared who the purchaser was. Relying on *Bon-Odeco v Powson* ([1978] 1 WLR 1093) he argued that what

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Stephenson Harwood.

**Magistrates' orders as to costs**

**Bunston v Rawlings**  
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice and Mr Justice Woolf  
(Judgment delivered February 15)

An appeal by case stated from Whittemore, Justice, Gloucestershire, the Divisional Court considered whether the justices had any jurisdiction or power under section 2(1) of the Costs in Criminal Cases Act 1973 to make an order that the costs incurred by the defendant, Mr Peter Rawlings, in defending the charges under the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, be taxed by the clerk to the court and paid by the prosecutor, Mr Alan Richard Bunston, a trading standards officer.

Mr Malcolm Bishop for the

prosecutor; Mr Gavin Chalmers for the defendant.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, reading the reserved judgment of the Court of Appeal of the 1973 Act, provided how the amount of costs awarded was to be ascertained.

Usually justices would have no difficulty, with the help of the parties or their advisers, at the end of a hearing in arriving at an appropriate figure for the successful defendant for the money properly expended in carrying out his defence. In the rare case where the necessary information was lacking or not readily available justices might wish to use the services of their clerk.

Solicitors: Mr D. A. Dean, Gloucester; Wellington & Clifford, Gloucester, for Anthony Courtney & Co, Dartmouth.

**Full details of injuries**

**Regina v Cooper**

When a criminal court made a compensation order in respect of personal injury suffered by the victim the court should have had full and up-to-date information about the injuries sustained; and when the court wished to impose a fine with a period of imprisonment in default, to be treated as his being his earned income taxable under Schedule E.

Mr Justice Cooper, a senior employee in the GEC group from a decision of the special commissioners who had upheld an assessment to income tax made for him in 1976-79 in a sum

**Profit from shares taxable as income**

**Chester v Inland Revenue Commissioners**

(Judgment delivered February 15)

A scheme devised by the General Electric Co Ltd to provide employees with interest-free loans to purchase shares in GEC, the company under section 7(1) of the Finance Act 1972 with the result that a gain of £807 made by an employee under the scheme had to be treated as his being his earned income taxable under Schedule E.

Mr Justice Cooper, a senior employee in the GEC group from a decision of the special commissioners who had upheld an assessment to income tax made for him in 1976-79 in a sum

of £12,496, had appealed against the assessment.

The scheme had been set up

within the group, who retained the shares as security for the loans. Purchases were not made direct from GEC but from a jobber in the stock market.

In 1974 the taxpayer instructed C Ltd to purchase 2,658 shares in GEC at 75p each. In 1979 he sold 250 of those shares at 402p each.

GEC appealed against an assessment to impose a charge on the gain made on the sale under the provisions of section 79 of the 1972 Act.

Section 79 provides for a gain to be taxable under Schedule E.

"(1) Where a person, on or after 6th April 1972, acquires shares or an interest in shares in a body corporate in pursuance of a right conferred on him or opportunity offered to him or of that or another body corporate, and not to his own account, he is to be treated as if it were his property in the course of his trade or profession."

The taxpayer, with other participants in the scheme, participated in the scheme whereby GEC provided interest-free loans to participants for the purchase of its ordinary shares. The transactions were carried out through the agency of C Ltd, a company

which the scheme attracted the operation of section 79 (1). If it did, any employee who sold his shares at a profit would be chargeable to income tax on an amount equal to the profits in place of the normal charge to capital gains tax. It would be one of the main reasons for the profit.

Two requirements had to be satisfied for section 79(1) to apply: first, finding the acquisition of shares had to be in pursuance of an opportunity offered to the taxpayer; second, the acquisition was not to be in pursuance of an offer to the public.

The taxpayer argued that the opportunity for him to purchase the shares was not provided by GEC but by the joker from whom he had obtained the shares in the market.

Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Michael Fleisch for the taxpayer; Mr Robert Carwith for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE COOPER said that the question was whether

GEC provided was an opportunity to borrow and that was different from an opportunity to acquire the shares.

But on any fair use of language it was impossible to say that the taxpayer did not acquire his shares in pursuance of an opportunity offered by GEC to him as an employee. Nor did it make any difference to the conclusion that the commissioners had found that the taxpayer could well have afforded to buy the shares without a loan and would probably have done so.

Further, the taxpayer's submission as to the second requirement of the sub-section failed also. It was a short point of convenience that the taxpayer's acquisition of the shares was not in pursuance of an offer to the public.

The taxpayer argued that the opportunity for him to purchase the shares was not provided by GEC but by the joker from whom he had obtained the shares in the market.

Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Michael Fleisch for the taxpayer; Mr Robert Carwith for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE COOPER said that the question was whether

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17 1982

Residential Property by Gareth David

## A system for house sales

The days of receiving endless lists of unsuitable houses for sale or of waiting lists for tenanted agents to send potential buyers to see your home are numbered as computerization at last reaches estate agencies.

A consortium of 11 Sussex agents have put all the properties on their books into the computer, and the man behind the project, Mr Bill Gregory, believes that within two years it will be standard feature of estate agents' offices throughout the country.

In simple terms it means that the house buyer will not have to tramp from agent to next to get a reasonable selection of properties, but will be able to get a comprehensive list.

By pooling all the properties on their books the 11 agents who make up the consortium will be able to offer a better chance of finding the best buyer—the person who will pay the most and complete soonest—and the fact that the details will almost immediately be relayed to all the main estate agents in that area.

This overcomes the main weakness of the conventional system—the limited catchment areas served by local offices. While it remains true that most people move locally, for many home owners their "best buyer" is likely to be from another locality. Computer coverage particularly linking of areas when it becomes nationally adopted, means that they will be found more certainly and sooner.

So how long will it be before one can expect to find a computer terminal in

a

every estate agent's office?

Mr Bill Gregory, the marketing director of the Property Agents Computer Project, says that computers have been formed in Kent, Avon, Gloucester and Swindon, and firmly believes that by the end of this year much of the country will be covered.

Promotion of the concept

will be through commercial television channels, the first time that most agents will have used this medium and it will, to some extent, dictate the area covered by each consortium. He believes that the whole of the TV South, Harlech, and part of the London television areas will be computerized by the end of the year, but certain parts of the country pose more of a problem.

Firms will pay a joining fee of about £1,000 for

which they will get a feasibility study of their area, advice on the type of system to select, and staff training.

Sadly the project does

not yet have

hard

for agents there to look like reducing estate agents' fees in the immediate future and although these are often a source of annoyance to some vendors, Mr Gregory points out that senior partners and directors of more than 60 firms from all parts of the country met in London earlier this month to form a coordinating authority based on the principles of the Sussex scheme.

TEAM

consortium will be

based

on

the

Royal

Institution

of Chartered Surveyors.

Except in exceptional circumstances a member firm will not be allowed to withhold listing of a certain property.

Firms

will

be

asked

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an

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of

£1,000

per

agent.

Mr

Gregory

says

that

the

computer

terminal

in

the

office

will

be

as

simple



# Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Introducing Photochemistry. 7.05 The Message of Starlight. 7.30 Closedown. 8.05 For Schools: Computer Technical Studies. Press work. 9.30 Science Workshop. 10.00 You and Me. For four and five year olds (not Schools) (r). 10.15 Everyday Maths. 10.30 Home Economics. 11.00 Words and Pictures. 11.17 12.00 English Brass. 11.40 Natural Details. 12.05 Lesson 15 of 16. 12.30 Come, Come, Come After Noon with Richard Whiteman. 12.45 Nine O'Clock News with Richard Whiteman. 12.57 Regional news (London and Six only). Financial Report and news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 Pebble at One. The Canon of Carlisle with a devotional recipe. 1.45 Postman Pat. A See-And-Do programme for the very young (r). 2.01 For Schools: Colleges: Watch. 2.18 Near and Far. 2.40 Merrymo-Round. 3.05 Songs of Praise from All Saints Church, Croydon. 3.40 Play It Safe Safety hints for the young (r). 3.53 Regional news.

BBC 2

3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2). 4.20 Cartoon: Winsome Witch in Operation Broomswitch. 4.25 Jackeney. Prunella Scales reads part three of Bogeoppi (r). 4.40 Take Note. Tony Hart looks at different modes of flight. 5.00 John Craven's Newsround. 5.05 Grandad. Clive Dunn returns to entrance children in his role of caretaker at Parkview Hall. 5.35 Not the Engine (r). 5.40 News with Richard Baker. 6.00 South East at Six. 6.25 Nationwide presented by David Dimbleby and Sue Lawley. 6.50 Hal's Cartoon Time. Four flicks featuring Tom and Jerry, Barney Bear, Droopy and Bugs Bunny. 7.20 Film: The Last Hunt (1955) starring Robert Taylor and Stewart Granger. A cattle farmer is left penniless when his livelihood is stamped on by a herd of buffalo. He reluctantly joins forces with a merciless hunter in what proves to be one of the last big buffalo hunts.

6.40 Open University: Maths: Ideas of Space. 7.05 Interdisciplinary Studies? 7.30 Closedown. 10.20 Giselle. A magazine programme of interest to Asian women. 10.45 Closedown. 11.00 Play School. For the under fives presented by Elizabeth Millbank and Dev Sagoo. The story is E. J. Farrington's Grannie Harris's Veillets and it is read by Eileen Agar. 11.25 Open University: Developing Mathematical Thinking: Setting Up and Solving. 12.00 Closedown. 3.55 Landscapes of England. Part six: The Deserts. Midlands: Professor W. G. Hoskins explains why the beautiful countryside of the Upper Thames and Banbury has remained unspoilt for centuries (r).

3.55 Play School. For the under fives (shown earlier on BBC 2). 4.20 Dayan. The first of a three-part profile of the legendary Israeli (r). 5.10 Santa Maria del Popolo. A look at the different styles of this 15th C Roman church (r). Laurel and Hardy in Dirty Work (1933). 6.00 The Water Margin. Exploits of legendary Chinese knights (r). 6.45 The Making of Mankind. Richard Leakey investigates our distant ancestors (r). 7.35 News with subtitles. 7.40 The Master Game. Jeremy James presents the third game of the International Chess series. Competing tonight are the 1981 German champion Eric Lobron and Miguel Quinteros, the champion of Argentina. Expert analysis of the game is by Sir Harrison Crossroads. Arthur Brownlow makes a surprising admission. 7.30 Coronation Street. Hilda Ogden thinks she knows who sent her valentine card. 8.00 Starburst. An hour-long variety show topped by Dennis (Minder) Waterman in his role of singer.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Magic for the hearing impaired. 9.47 The magic of mime with Marcel Marceau. 10.00 The Year in Art part 10. 10.15 French conversation. 10.38 Problems encountered in the early years of marriage. 10.42 The manufacture of steel. 11.20 How to avoid foot trouble. 11.39 The Introduction of the Nations. 12.00 The Marchioness. Adventures with animated vegetables for the very young. 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets. 12.30 Play It Again. Tony Billow talks to Richard Gough who is writing a book about puppets. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Take the High Road. Everyday life on a highland estate. 2.00 After Noon. Mary Parkinson and Kay Avila entertain the Antipodean housewife superstar; Edna. Evening, on the occasion of Harry Humphries's birthday. 2.45 The Six Million Dollar Man. He is back, and he means him what he is. 2.45 Definition. A crossword quiz between Claire Rayner and Graham Stark (r).

4.15 Cartoon: Dr Snuffles. 4.20 Macbeth. Michael Bentall talks to Sir Peter Scott about his search for the Loch Ness Monster. 4.45 King of the Britons. King Arthur teaches one of his young followers how to look after himself (r). 5.15 Mr Merlin. Comic adventures of a wizard disguised as a manager of a garage. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.25 Home Income Supplement. Not much in itself, but among other benefits it includes free school meals for the children. 6.35 Crossroads. Arthur Brownlow makes a surprising admission. 7.00 This is Your Life. Eamonn Andrews with the potted biography of another bemused celebrity. 7.30 Coronation Street. Hilda Ogden thinks she knows who sent her valentine card. 8.00 Starburst. An hour-long variety show topped by Dennis (Minder) Waterman in his role of singer.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing. Planning Today. 6.30 Today. 6.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 6.40 News. 6.45 Music: Henry Kelly (r). 6.50 News. 10.02 Gardener's Question Time. Listener Questions. 10.15 Morning Story: "Say it isn't So" by Brian Glavinville. 11.00 News. 11.15 Baker's Dozen. 12.00 You and Yours. 12.20 Around the World in 25 Years with Dorothy Morris. 1.00 Weather. 1.30 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.25 News of the Hour. 3.02 Play: "Damn Nearly One of the Greatest Stories ever Told" by Barry Hines. 3.50 Zoo Talk. A collection of stories from the zoo. 4.00 Beyond the Threshold. The story of the Society for Physical Research. 4.45 Story Time: "An Old Captivity" by Neville Shute (r). 5.00 PM. 5.15 News and Financial Report. 5.20 My Word! (r). 6.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.25 Chirkwood. 7.45 A Musical Evening with Thomas Allen. The opera singer in conversation. 8.45 File on 4. 8.55 Weather. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.30 Quote... Unquote. 11.00 Guests and Identity others (r). 11.00 Book at Bedtime: "Charméd Lives" by Michael Korda (r). 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 12.00 News and Weather.

7.05 Your Midwest Choice Dvorak; Liszt; Beethoven; Glazov; records. 7.05 Your Midwest Choice (continued) cont. Vaughan Williams; Rubbra; records. 8.00 This Weeks Composer Dvorak; records. 10.00 Spanish Songs. Monks, Fahey, Peña. 10.35 Enesco. Chamber music recital. 11.55 Northern Sinfonia of England concert: Haydn; Nielsen; Walton. 11.00 News. 12.00 Concert Hall Recital: Semmerling; Sant-Saens; Lennox Berkeley; Gossec; Vacquer; Job. 1.00 Music Weekly. 2.00 Jazzes. Talking Sonny Rollins in conversation with Charles Fox. 4.00 Choral Evensong from Worcester Cathedral. 4.45 News.

5.00 Many for Pleasure. 7.00 S.S.S. Strudel. 8.00 Systems. 8.30 Denise Donoghue assesses the new literary criticism which has developed in France and America. 9.00 Apollo. Concert direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London (part 1). 11.00 Six Continents. 11.24 Egon. 11.30 Apostles Concert. 12.00 Concert 21. 12.30 Philip Cannon Logos. 1.00 News. 11.05 Concert Party on record. 1.00 Medium Frequency/Medium Wave as above except as follows: 7.20 Cricket Test Match Special. 7.45 Cricket. 8.00 Open University.

Radio 2

5.00 am Ray Moore. 1.20 Terry Wogan. 2.00 Jimmy Young. 1.20 pm Gloria Hunniford. 1.00 Ed Stewart. 4.00 David Hamilton. 5.45

News and Sport. 6.00 John Dunn. 7.00 Alan Dean. 8.00 The King's Speech. 9.00 The Queen. 10.30 Be My Guest. 11.00 Brian Matthew from the BBC. 12.00 John Peel. 2.00-3.00 You and the Night and the Music. (r)

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 8.00 Simon Dee. 11.00 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 pm Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Peter Powell. 7.00 Radio 1 Mailbag. Phone-In on 01-882 2411. 10.00 John Peel. 12.00 Midnight Close.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave frequencies. The times are GMT: 6.00 News. 7.00 Summary. 7.30 London. 7.45 Paris. 8.00 Report on Religion. 8.15 The King of Instruments. 8.30 The Queen. 8.45 The British Isles. 8.50 Review of the British Press. 8.15 The World Today. 8.30 Financial News. 8.45 The World News. 8.50 The Red and the Black. 11.00 World News. 11.05 News About Britain. 11.15 News About the World. 12.15 News About the Americas. 12.15 News About Africa. 12.15 News About Asia. 12.15 News About Australia. 12.15 News About the Middle East. 12.15 News About the Soviet Union. 12.15 News About New Zealand. 12.25 The Farthing World. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 The World News. 1.15 News Summary. 1.30 Radio Theatre. 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 A Word in Edenbridge. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 The World News. 3.30 The World News. 3.45 The World News. 3.50 The World News. 3.55 The World News. 4.00 The World News. 4.05 The World News. 4.15 Musicians at Large. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.05 Listening Post. 5.15 The World News. 5.20 The World News. 5.25 The World News. 5.30 The World News. 5.35 The World News. 5.40 The World News. 5.45 The World News. 5.50 The World News. 5.55 The World News.

Charlie Chester says Be My Guest (Radio 2, 10.30 pm)

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News:



Vicki Finnegan as Vicki (Radio 2, 4.20 pm)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 3 2-VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3.5 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92.5MHz. Greater London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service

## REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC 1

CYMRU/WALES 11.17 11.40-11.45

YUGOSLAVIA 11.40-12.05

SCOTLAND 12.15-12.45

GRANGE HILL 1.30-2.00

TOMORROW 2.00-2.30

SCOTLAND 2.45-3.00

ENGLAND 3.00-3.30

SCOTLAND 3.45-4.15

SCOTLAND 4.30-5.00

SCOTLAND 5.15-5.45

SCOTLAND 5.50-6.35

SCOTLAND 6.45-7.00

SCOTLAND 7.15-7.45

SCOTLAND 7.50-8.15

SCOTLAND 8.20-8.45

SCOTLAND 8.50-9.15

SCOTLAND 9.15-9.45

SCOTLAND 9.45-10.15

SCOTLAND 10.15-10.45

SCOTLAND 10.45-11.15

SCOTLAND 11.15-11.45

SCOTLAND 11.45-12.15

ULSTER

As Themes except: 1.20 pm-1.30

Lunchtime. 2.45-3.45

6.15-7.15

Good Evening Ulster. 6.00-6.35

Good Evening Ulster. 11.50 News at

Bedtime. Closedown.

TSW

As Themes except: 1.20 pm-1.30

Newspaper. 2.45-3.45

4.30-5.30

5.30-6.35

6.00-7.00

7.00-8.00

8.00-9.00

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